Duke of Bedford to Governor, 1748.

Whitehall, 7th May, 1748.

Sir,

The King's Plenipotentiary & those of His Most Christian Majesty, and the States General of the United Provinces, having signed at Aix La Chapelle, on the 19th of April last, O. S., preliminary Articles for restoring a General peace, and in Consequence whereof, His Majesty has been pleased to order a Proclamation to be published, declaring a Cessation of Arms, as well by Sea as Land, which I send you herewith inclosed; I am commanded by His Majesty to signify to you His pleasure, that you cause the same to be published in all the proper places under your Government, to the End that all His Majesty's Subjects there may pay due obedience to, & a strict Observance of the same.

I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble Servant,

BEDFORD.

Governor of Pennsylvania.

Indorsed—D. of Bedford's Letter, dated at Whitehall, 7th May, 1748, enclosing a Proclamation for Cessation of Hostilities against France. Entered. Read in Council the 15th August, 1748, and published the 17th day at ye Court house.

Messrs Powell & Rhoads to Richard Peters, 1748.

Philadelphia, June ye 14th, 1748.

Friend Peters,

The Majestrates & Assessors of this City, having at the Request of the Inhabitants, made some Provision for cleansing & walling Part of the Dock, & improving the Swamp between Budd's Buildings & Society Hill, for publick use, according to a plan herewith delivered; Contributions are raising in the Neighbourhood, for continuing the Common Sewer across Spruce Street, & for advancing the general Improvements.

Most of the Inhabitants, Owners of Ground along up said Dock, have engaged (by a written Contract under Hand & Seal delivered,)

to digg, wall, and cleanse, their several & Respective Parts & shares of the s^d Dock, which are opposite to their respective Lotts of Ground, immediately after the Party next below, shall have so done their part or share, and by this method, we hope there is now a fair prospect of having the whole Dock, so far as Third Street, cleansed and walled, & the Dangerous, & disagreeable Nusance so much complained of, entirely removed: provided any Person, on Behalf of the Honorable Proprietor,* will cause the Parts or Shares, opposite to his Lotts, to be in like manner dug, walled and cleansed when they come in Course, which, we make no doubt, the Proprietor will highly approve of, seeing the advantages must accrue to his Estates in common with others, and without this is done, the whole Work, however useful & necessary, must soon be at a Stand.

Now we desire to be inform'd how this may be obtained, & also a Contribution proportioned to the Proprietor's Interest therein, for carrying on the Common Sewer, & for advancing the general Improvements.

SAM'L POWELL.
SAMUEL RHOADS.

Directed.

To

Richard Peters,

Secretary.

Indorsed.

Lre from Sam. Rhoads & Sam. Powell, about cleansing the Dock, 14 June, 1748.

Jacob Kollock to Richard Peters, 1748.

Sir,

On the re^t of y^r Letter of June the 18th, we immediately wrote to Capt. Norbury the intelligence therein Contained, who returned for Answer that tho' He believed it was His Ship & Prizes that Had been taken for Don Pedro & His Consorts, yet he would go Directly in quest of whatever enemy might be on the Coast, and accordingly sailed from Hence yesterday was se'nnight, as did the other two days ago, to whom we made a signal from the shore, and also Dispatched of a Letter after under sail to acquaint Capt. Ballet of a French privateer Sloop being Cruising near the Cape: Hope he will meet with Her, and the Prizes She Hath Lately taken.

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. IV., p. 244, for his reply to this suggestion. In 1765 an act was passed in consequence of the plan for rendering the Dock navigable, not being found to answer, requiring it to be filled up "over the arch now erected," and to be regulated as a public street, "by the name of Dock street."—See MS. laws, Vol. V. pp. 52–3, in Secretary's office.

As to what His Honour, the President. and the Honble, the Council of Pennsylvania, request about our giving Notice to them, as Likewise of Sending an Express to Virginia, upon the approach of any immediate Danger, Please to pay our Compliments to that Honble Board, and Assure them that we shall readily & Cheerfully Do So; and in regard to their other request, Concerning our Signals, Please to inform them, that for the safety of the outward Bound Trade, we Have Fixed upon the Following one, viz:

At Such Time as No Man of War is in the Road, and we know of an Enemy's Being of, as Soon as ever a Vessell that is Coming down the Bay Can be seen from our Lower Battery at Bailey's Point, we will Fire one of our Largest Guns, and repeat the same Signal at every 5 minutes Distance in Time, untill we observe that the Vessell hath taken Notice of it.

By a Traveller from Virginia we are informed that a man of war (Probably the Hector) took a Spanish or French Privateer Brig, Near a Place called the Horse Shoe, on Wednesday, June 22^d^.

We thank you for your Care of our Powder, Shot and Flag, which I have rec^d^. But as we are told the Flag Cost between 13 and £14 we are afraid it will Break in too much upon our Stock to Have another at Present and yet as we are at a Loss to make Signals from our Town Battery without Colours, we must have some sort; we Have Therefore thought that a *union Pendant of about* 30 *feet fly, and Somewhat Broader than usual*, may Answer the End. Please to get the same made, and sent as soon as you conveniently can, which will add to the obligations you Have already laid upon

Sir,

Your very

Humble Servant.

R^t^. HOLT,

in behalf of

JACOB KOLLOCK.

LEWES, July 1st, 1748.

P. S. Capt. Ballet left with me the Letter for Capt. Norbury, and an Order for the Pipe of Wine, which I Have since Got & Put into my Cellar

Yours,

R. H.

Directed.—To Mr. Secretary Peters, at Philadelphia.

Endorsed—Mr. Ryves Holt's Letter of 1st July, 1748, to Mr. Secretary Peters, at Philadelphia.

* Probably the pipe of wine which, with eight loaves of sugar, and twenty gallons of rum, was presented to Capt. B., by the City Councils, in lieu of a dinner. See Minutes, 1704–1776, p. 501.

D. Bush, &c., to President Palmer, 1748.

Wilmington, 6th July. 1748.

Sir,

This is to acquaint, that we have erected a Battery on the Rocks of Christiana, with a Magazine that is Bomb proof, &c., for the Defence of this Burrough & parts adjacent. Which being viewed by a great many Gentlemen, yet it is agreed by all, that for the Bulk, (being as yet only made for mounting Ten Guns) it is equall to, if not exceeds, any on the Continent for Strength & Beauty. The Place appeared as if formed by nature for that purpose, & the people were so hearty & zealous, that the whole was finished in a few Days, to the surprise of all that have since seen the Works. We, knowing it our Duty, would have informed you of the Design before undertaken, but the whole being projected & begun after the Spanish privateers being at New Castle, & before we heard of her leaving the River, time would not permitt. We were the rather encouraged herein, as the Precedent has always taken the greatest Care to do, & pleasure to promote & encourage every thing, as much as possible, for the Defence and welfare of the Government, We therefore hope that you will not only excuse this omission, which necessity enforced, but likewise be so good as to approve of our Conduct than which nothing cou'd afford greater pleasure & satisfaction to

Honoured Sir,
Your most obedient &
very humble Servants,

DAVID BUSH,
JNO. M'KINLY,
CHAR^s BUSH.

To the Honble Anthony Palmer, Esqre, Pres^dt, Philad^a.

Endorsed—Letter of David Bush and others at Wilmington to the President, dated 6th July, 1748.

* "The Rocks of Christiana" are considered by Ferris in his "Original Settlements on the Delaware," page 52, as the site of the old Swedish fort, "Christina," built in 1638, by Gov. Minuit, and which, in 1655, while under command of Gov. Risingh, capitulated to the Dutch under Stuyvesant. (see Hazard's Annals, Vol. I, pp. 187-189.) Acrelius, the Swedish historian, and pastor at Wilmington, says, that "in 1745 some pieces of Swedish money, with the stamp of Queen Christina, were dug up in this neighborhood," and "that on the 31st March, 1755, on taking up by chance some pieces of the wall, there were found many cannon balls, granadoes and other similar things, which had been kept concealed exactly 100 years."—[Acrelius, in a note to Duponceau's translation of Campanius, p. 85, in Memoirs of Penna. Hist. Soc.] And in October 1852, "14 cannon balls, 9 & 6 pounders, all bearing ample evidence of their antiquity, by the depth of oxydation which covers them," were discovered, "with several other articles near them, one of which was an old fashioned pewter dish, deeper than our common dinner plates and

Captain J. Ballett to Richard Peters, 1748.

Otter Sloop, Lewes Road,
July, ye 6th, 1748.

Sr:

I having met with an opportunity of writing, Acquaint you that I arrived at this place Last night, after seeing the Convoy all safe, fifty Leagues off of the Coast, & have cruised along the Coast down from the Capes of Virginia to Egg Harbour, but have not had the Good fortune of meeting with any of our troublesome Gentry as yet, for the Coast at present is very clear, but how long it will Remain so I cannot tell. I am going out again this Evening to look about me, and shall Return again in about a Week's time to Enquire for News, &c., if their is any ships Wants Convoy off of the Coast at any time, if they will Let me know in time, I will be always Ready to Go out with them. My Respects to the President & Council, and all the Gentlemen of my Acquaintance in Philadelphia. Mr. Holt Desires his Compliments to you, & believe me to be

Sr,
your Humble servant,
to Command,
J. BALLETT.*

To Richard Peters, Esq.

Indorsed—Capn Ballett's Lre, 6th July, 1748.

narrower in the brim, which, it is supposed, was Gov. Risingh's soup plate," (Delaware Republican, Oct. 19, 1852, and 25th or 26th,) all which have been considered as fixing the locality of the old fort. But after meeting with the foregoing letter, the attention of the first named author was directed by the Editor to its contents, which he in a letter to him, says, "is the first account I ever saw or heard of any such erection." Whether the cannon balls heretofore discovered belonged to the former or latter of these forts, or partly to both, is matter of conjecture, as both were probably located on or near the spot, and the lapse of time since the latter period is perhaps sufficient to account for the oxydation. It is somewhat singular that the knowledge of the fort in 1748 should have passed away from its immediate vicinity. It was probably only a temporary structure, and nothing important resulted from it to impress it upon the memory. Ed.

* He was Commander of the Sloop of War Otter, in an action with a "very large ship," during "four hours." See Col. Rec. Vol. V, p. 241, &c.

Conrad Weiser to Richard Peters, 1748.

Heidleberg, July the 10th, 1748.

Kind Sir:

I was favoured with yours this day over Lancester, I say yours of the 25th of last month. If I have an opportunity, I will let the Indians at Shomokin Know of the Governor of N. York* answer. I can not go up meselves, because the time for my Seting out for Ohio is so near, I have agreed to be at George Croghan's, the 18th of this Instant, where I hope to see Shickelimy's Eldest son, who was sent up by his father to the Six Nations, and since his arrival, his father send word to me to Come to Shomokin to be Informed of what passes among the 6 Nations, but I did let them know that I must at the aforesaid Time Set out for Ohio, per order of the Government, and I Could not Come to Shomokin, desired him at the same that himself or his Son, would be so good as to Come to George Croghan's to Conferr with me about Several things, whether he will Come or not, I cant tell. He is not alltogether pleased with my Journey to Ohio, nor is he much liked by the Indians on that place. If I must go to Shomokin it must be per order of the President & Counsil, that is if in Case, neither Shickelimy, nor his Sons Comes to George Croghan's.

I hear no more of the Deputy's of the Towicktowicks and Shawonos, whom Andrew is gone to meet. Whatever is become of them, perhaps they are yet in Logstown on Ohio. I dont intent to Stay for them, without they meet me before I leave George Croghan's, from which place I shall write to you once more, and bid you fare well.

I remain

Sir,

Your very obedient,

CONRAD WEISER.

Favour me with a line or two by the bearer hereof, who is a waggoner, and no doubt in a Hurry. I hope every thing is sent up to G. Croghan, If not, this man can take what is forgot.

* See Col. Rec. Vol. V. p. 298.

Thomas Cookson to R. Peters, 1748.

Sir:

Mr. Croghan is just come to Town with an Accot of ye Indians you Expected, being upon ye Road, to be in this Town to-morrow, & desiring to be met here by their Brethren, as soon as conveniently may be. Conrade Weiser hapned fortunately to be here, & will give his Attendance, and has wrote you by this Messenger, accordingly I shall make ye Provision for one you directed, and shall hope to see you here on Monday.

Andrew Montour went from Harris's to Conrade Weiser's, to inform him of this, and I suppose will wait there till Conrade goes home, who will prevent his going to Town to give you the Accot, & save ye charge of 2 Messengers.

I am

Sr,

Yr most h'ble Servt,

THO. COOKSON.

Lancr, 14th July, 1748.

Endorsed—Mr. Cookson's Lre, of ye 14th July, 1748. Read in Council the 16th.

Conrad Weiser to R. Peters, 1748.

Lancester, July the 14th, 1748.

Sir:

I came to this town the night before last, to Setle some affair of my own, before my Setting out for Ohio, and this moment when I write this, Mr. George Croghan Came to town, and Informs that the Indian deputies to wit: the two Towick Towicks, [Twigthwees,] three Shawonese, two head [principal] man of the Six nations, with some others, making in all 18 persons, including a Cuple of women, [two women], are by the way between this town and John Harris's Ferry, and design to be here in Lancester to morow, and they desire that their Brethren, some of the Council, will meet them in this town, they being very weary of their Journey, and almost starffed for want of provisions, and are affaired that the City of Philadelphia is sickly. Andrew Montour is gone down from John Harris to my house, in order to give me notice. I intend to go home Imediately to meet him, and so Come back again to this town, to wait upon the Counsil. I understand what will be said by the

Indians, will be in the Six nation linguage by the said Chiefes. The Indians desire to be heard so soon as possible, and I hope the Counsil will be as willing to dispatch them. I have nothing to add, but remain.

Sir,

Your most obedient,

CONRAD WEISER.*

Indorsed—Mr. Weiser's Lre., dated 14th July, 1748. Read in Council, 19th July, 1748.

Conrad Weiser to Rich'd Peters, 1748.

Sir:

Yours by Mr. Wm. Franklin, I received last night, with my Instructions, and the Proclltion. I just now preparing to set out for Lancester again, to meet the Indians. I understand the rainy wheather stopt them a day at John Harris's.

As Mr. Parsons will (I hope) deliver this to you, with a draft of that piece of land he layd out for me, by your order, (I find it is above 400 acres,) he will Cut of on the Sid of the Hill, if you require it, so much as you shall think fit. But I would rather have it all, and pay to the Honourble, the proprietors, as they (or you) shall think fit. I dont doubt but what their Honours will let me have it so soon as any other man, Therefore, I pray let it Conveyed to me, and I will do what will be required of me. The other small tract I had Surveyed to me by proprietary Warrant, on the usual Condiditions; also the right of Willm Eonst to 37 acres joining. I would have a patent, for a good part is paid; the rest I will pay before I take the patent out of your or Mr. Lardner's hands. I have nothing to add, but must desire (Since my Journey will be delayed till the first of August next,) If any further news of the peace reaches you, you will spare no trouble to Communicate it. I am

Sir,

your very humble servant,

CONRAD WEISER.

Heidleberg, July the 17, 1748.

Directed.

To

Richard Peters, Esqr.,

Secretary,

in

Philadelphia.

Indorsed.

Mr. Weisar's Lre of 17th July, 1748.

* See Col. Rec. Vol. V. p. 298.

Conrad Weiser to R. Peters, 1748.

Lancester, August the 4, 1748.

Sir:

I was favoured with yours of the 30 of last month. Included was the Instruction of the Council concerning the Governor of South Carolina's affair, and I perceive the people that have ben killed and Carried of in Carolina, must have ben Killed by the Sinickers, in Company with some French praying Indians. The particular words Andrew told me are thus: That after the Commission^rs had mentioned the affair to the Indians at the last treaty here in Lancester, the young Shawano Chief Lawack Kamicky, told Andrew, *that it was well known that some of the foresaid Indians, to wit, Sinickers and Praying Indians that come from the warr this last spring, had killed some white people.* So farr Andrew told me, and told me further that I might depend upon the truth of the storry; but, however I will inquire further, and will let you know if I can learn more before I set out from George Croghans.

I have bought the goods of G. Croghan, ordered by the Commissioners for the Twichtwees, and have this day delivered his Bill with all the rest to Thomas Cookson, to be sent to you. The Charges runs very high, yet I cannot see of which Bill I could Cut of, and must leave them to the Government. As to the number of Indians, and the time they have been within the inhabitant part, & in Lancaster, I am satisfied the Bills are right. The Nontikook Indians have been very troublesome to us. They where like so many wolfs, and I had no Influence on them upon no account. There Came but 18 persons from Ohio, and with the said Nontikooks, and a few Canastoge Indians. The number of Indians here in Lancester, present at the last treaty, amounted to 55 persons, among whom were 4 sick, which gave particular trouble and Charges. The Twicktwees I left in very good thoughts of the English, and I am, for my part satisfied they are sincere in our Interest; and within a year or two, you will see a good many of the farr Ind^s in Pensylvania, be it warr or peace. I have given every one of the Indians such present as I was ordered by the Comissioners; that is to say, to the Twicktwees. To the others that conducted them down, I gave to each of them a Strowd match coat, a shirt, a pair of Indian Stocking, a Knife, and a ½ Barrel of powder, and 100 lb. of let, one lb. of vermillion betwixt them all. This last I took out of the General present. The Nontikooks stood and looked very dull, because they got nothing. I was quite out of Humour with them, for the disorder they occasioned; yet, upon a second thought, I gave them 25 lb. of powder and 50 lb. of let out of the general present, rather to please the Indians from Ohio (that they might keep what little they had received) than the said Nontikooks, with which they went of, glad to have some thing. I had told them that they were very in-

discreet people to hunt the Stranger all along without any order or request from the Governor of Pensilvania, or these people themselves, Except two or three of them.

Andrew Montour has pitched upon a place in the Proprietor's mannor, at Canataqueany. He Expects that the Government shall build him a house there, and furnish his family with necessarys. In short, I am at a lost what to say of him. I am much Concerned about him. He seams to be very hard to please. I should think meselve happy if I had nothing to do in public affairs, and could turn a farmer entirely. At present I leave you, but shall take my farewell at George Croghan's from whence I will write to you again.

I remain, Sir, your obedient

CONRAD WEISER.

P. S.—I gave my account against the Government, to Mr. Kinsey; but as for my last services, I have sent no account. You know I have been twice in Philad^a since last Spring, per order of the Council. The first Journey 11 days; the second 12 from home. Beside my services at the last treaty, being in that time 18 days in the Government's Service. All this I leave to your care.

Directed.

To

Richard Peters, Esquire,
Secretary to the Government,
Philadelphia.

Indorsed.

Mr. Weiser's Letter, 4th Aug^t, 1748.

Extract of Conrad Weiser's Journal to Ohio, In August, 1748.

	Miles.
Set out from my House & came to James Galbreath that Day,	30
Came to George Croghan's,	15
To Robert Duning's,	20
To the Tuscarroro Path,	30
To the black Log,	20
To the Standing Stone,	26
To Frank's Town,	38
To the clear Fields,	16
To the Showonese Cabbins,	34
To the 10 mile Lick,	32
To Ohio,	26

Indorsed.

Extract of Conrad Weiser's Journal in 1748.

Extract from Conrad Weiser's Journal to Ohio in August, 1748.

1748. Aug^{t}.		*Miles.*
18.	From the Black Log to within 2 miles of the standing Run,	24
19.	Travelled 12 miles this Day,	12
20.	Came to Frank's Town,	26
22.	Crossed Allegheny Hill & came to the Clear Fields,	16
23.	Came to the Shawonese Cabbins,	34
24.	Came to the ten mile Lick,	32
25.	Crossed Kisky monitas Creek & came to Ohio,	26
		170
	Note. The Black Log is 8 or 10 miles South East of the Three Springs and Frank's Town lies to ye North, so that there must be a deduction of at least twenty miles.	20
		150

Indorsed.

Extract from Conrad Weiser's Journal from Black Log to the Ohio.

George Croghan to Rich'd Peters, 1748.

Augt'st 8th, 1748.

Sir:

I have Given in My Account to M^{r}. Cookson which amounts to Sixty odd pounds, the Expenses would nott amount To So much only for the Nantecokes Going & Coming in Company with the Ohio Ingans. I hear by a Trader that is Just Come from Ohio that ye Ingans has brought one of the white men That was missing from Carolina as a Prisner to Ohio & kill'd, the other. Ought Rode M^{r}. Wiser, & I go's to the Ingan Town where he is now a prisner. S^{rs}, I have no more to acquaint you at present but that ye Ohio Ingans Sett off from my hous Last week very well Satisfy^{d} with the reception they received, only the Sick Man remains still att my house till his back is well.

I remain

Y^{r} most humble Servant,

GEO. CROGHAN.

Directed.

To Richard Peters, Esq., in Philadelphia.

Indorsed.

Mr. Croghan's Letter to Rich'd Peters, 1st Aug^{t}, 1748.

Read in Council ye 12th August, 1748.

Indian Traders, 1748.

Indian Traders Lycensed from 10th Augt 1747 to 10th Augt 1748.

1. Lazarus Lowry, 2. George Croghan,
3. Thos. Meagee, 4. Hugh Crawford,
5. Alexander Moorhead, 6. John Frazier,
7. James Lowry, 8. Peter Sheaver,
9. John Galbreath.

Indian Traders unlycened from 10th Augt 1747 to 10th Augt 1748.

John Finley,
Robert Desap,
John Potts, at Harris's, in Pextang; J. Warder,
Paul Pearce, Pennsboro Manor; J. Warder, yts
John Owen, Rob. Dunnings, E. Ship. & Levy, 2 yts.
Dennis Sullivant, Donegale, E. Ship.
Samuel Cozens, Jno. Harris, J. Warder, 3 yes.
Simon Girtee, Chambers's in Pextang, Edgil, 3 yes.
Adam Hoops, whiskey kegg maker for E. S.
William Blythe, Shippensburg.
Francis Cammell, do. Ed. Shippen,
Thomas Kenton, Logan Edgil,
David Hendricks, Manor,
John Galbreath, Donegal,
Charles Williams, Tho. M'Gee,
Francis Water, Dongal, Shippen & Levy.
Hugh Parker, Arent Puro, 1 year,
Tho Meener,
Sam'l Chambers, wth Thos. Kenson, W.
William Powell, by M'Gee. W.
Peter Corbie, Donegal, W.
John Gray, for himself.
James Butler,
Thomas Ward,
Thos. Burney, if he puts,
Thos. Mitchel, J. Warder,
John Lee,
James Denney,
Jos. Cammil, Morehead,
James Silver, & James Crawley.

Directed.

For Richard Peters, Esq., Secretary,
Lancaster.

Indorsed.

Indian Traders to be Lycensed by the President & Council, 10th Augt, 1748.

Conrad Weiser to R. Peters, 1748.

Tuscarrora path, August the 15, 1748.

Sir,

By these lines I let you know that I set out from my house the 11 of this Instant, and am no further yet than this place, that is about 50 miles beyond G. Croghan's. Scaroyiaty, with a few more of the Indians that attended the last treaty, were still at G. C.'s, they had ben informed that the people here were to be turned off by the Govern^t^, and I suppose the people used them well on their coming by, and Informed them of the design, they, the Indians, asked me about them, and desired that at least two familys, to wit, Abraham Shlechl and another, might stay, that they, the said Indians, had given them liberty, and that they thought it was in their power to give liberty to such as the lieked, and if any of the people now living there was turned off, no other Body should setle there, they being informed that as soon as the people were turned off others would be put on the land such as the Government lieked One Jacob Biat is now here to choose a place, it is lieke the thing was not Carried on according to your orders, but it is neither the Sherriffs nor the Justices fault, the proclamation has ben this Minute read to the people, who for the most part (I Beliefe every one) are willing to go off next Spring, If not a more favourable order Comes from the Government, the Indians have desired me not to join to turn off the people till I Came from Ohio. I promised I would not, I shall overtake them to morrow on the road, they are gone before. The people that lives here are very poor, and I belief the two family the Indians would have to stay are Honest, notwithstanding what has been reported, I have little or nothing to write to you further, I am in perfect Health and in every part well, I had promised to write a few lines to Mr. J. Logan, but I have nothing worth while to trouble him with, I desire of you to mention my hearty respect to him, and that I promise meself his good wishes, and the same of your Self. It is possible I may be obliged to pay the debt of Human nature before I get home. I begg you will Continue the same to my family, who are both hisen and yours, very obedient and duty full,

CONRAD WEISER.

P. S. Mr. Franklin's son is very well, as is all the rest of my Companions, we intent to set out to morrow morning from this place.

Directed.

To Richard Peters, Esquire,
Secretary to the Government,
Philadelphia.

Indorsed.

Pr favour of Mr Sterrit, High Sherrif of Lancaster County.

Read in Council, 1st 7ber, 1748.

Gov. George Clinton to President Palmer, 1748.

New York, 12th Sepr, 1748.

Sir:

I woud have answer'd Your Favour of the 1st Inst. sooner, but that I waited for the opinion of the Judge, who try'd the Criminal, said to be in your Joal, he being out of Town, and he tells me the only way of conveying him hither, is to send him properly guarded from Philadelphia to Trentown by water, to be delivered up to the care of the Sheriff of that County, and so on to Brunswick by Land, & from thence to New York by water. If you approve of this method, I will send the Deputy Sheriff of this City to Philadelphia, to assist in escorting him, and shall write to Govr Belcher, to give directions to receive him at Trentown, & to pass him thro' his Government. I am with very great regard,

Sir,

Your most obedt
Humble Servant,

G. CLINTON.

The Honble Anthony Palmer, Esqr.

Indorsed—Govr Clinton's Lre, 12th 7ber, 1748. Read in Council, 27th 7ber, 1748.

Mr. Trent to R. Peters, 1748.

Mr. Croghan's, October 20th, 1748.

Sir:

Last Night came here from Alleghany, one Jno. Hays, who informs us that the Night before he left it, the Indians killed one of Mr. Parker's hands; it was owing to ill usage Mr. Parker & his Hands gave them that day, & his being a Maryland Trader, who the Indians don't care should come amongst them. Mr. Parker had a large quantity of Liquor up with him, which he was tying up in his goods in order to send to the lower Shawna Town, and the Indians kep pressing into his House, & he unwilling that they should see what he was about, some he turned out, & others as they were coming in, he pushed the Door in their faces, upon which they were determind to take his Liquor, unless he would let them have it at the price settled at the Treaty, they brought him Wampum, and offered to leave it in pledge, but he refused to let them have it, upon which they took a quantity from him, a great many of them got Drunk,

who then insisted upon revenge for the ill treatment he gave them, and accordingly took Parker Prisoner, and tyed him, and determined to Scalp him, but the rest of the whites who were in the Town rescued him. He immediately went of about two mile from from the Town, where some of his People lay, & got a Horse, & rid that night thirty Miles bare backed to the Logs Town. The Indians imagined that he was gone into his House, one of them layd wait for him at the Door with his Gun, at last one Brown, one of Mr. Parker's hands, came out with a white matchcoat round him, which the Indian took for Parker, (as he was in his shirt at the time they had him tyed,) & shot him down, this happened at Coscoske. Mr. Croghan sends Wm. Brown the Lad from Carolina, off directly by a waggon to be delivered according to your directions. Mr. Croghan gave him a shirt & a cap, which comes to 12s. 6d. Mr. Croghan & myself, set off the latter end of next week for Philada.

I am

Sir,

your most humb Servt,

WILLIAM TRENT.

Indorsed—Mr. Trent's Lre, 20th 7ber, 1748. Read in Council, Tuesday, 1st Novr, 1748.

Mem'm of Wampum from C. Weiser, 1748.

Memorandum of the Wampum I left in the Secretary's office, Octber the 21st, 1748.

Were given by the Indians on account of Carolina affair. See my Journal.

	grains.
A large Blake Belt,	2000
A String Blake & White,	256
Dito, Blacke & White,	600

Were given by the Indians to the President & Council of Pennsylvania. See the Journal.

A String of White of	150
A Belt of White & few Blake,	900
A String of White,	300
A String White,	185
A nother String of White Wampum,	212

I can give an account of ten tousand grains of white & Blacke Wumpum, I used at the treaty on Ohio. Some of the Belt the Indians will return or ansr with some of their. Some Hundreds I Brought Back, not includ in the above, but will return them by first opportunity to Secretary.

CONRAD WEISER, Interpreter.

Indorsed—Conrad Weiser's Accot of Wampum, left in the Secretarys Office, October 21st, 1748.

Deposition of S. White and others, 1748.

Cecil Co^ty^, *ss.*

The deposition of Samuel White, aged Fifty-three, Deposeth on Oath, & sayeth that he knows of no improvement made on the Land, where Mary McFadin now lives, before she Settled there as Tenant to Henry Baker, that there was a small appearance of a Settlement, when this Deponent settled on his own Land, wch was made on his, this Deponent's Land, near to the Land Mary McFadin now lives on, & that he heard that it was a Dutchman that settled there, and further sayeth not.

Taken before me the 19th day of Novemb. 1748.

NATHAN BAKER.

Hannah White, aged about Thirty-nine, being one of the People, calleth Quakers, affirmeth & sayeth, that She Remembereth that the severall Articles sworn to above are just & true.

The Deposition of Jonathan Hartshorn, aged about Thirty years, Deposeth on oath, and sayeth that he hath liv'd at & near the Settlement of Samuel White, About Twenty two years, & remembers that Thomas Hampton sold the place where Saml White now lives, that the said Hampton when he sold the above Settlem^t^ to this Deponent's Father, made a reserve of a small Improvement out of the said Settlem^t^, & near joyning to the Land, the above Mary McFadin now lives on, wch Improvement is now in the Possession of Samuel White, & had been there before the said McFadin settled there.

The above depositions taken befour me, one of his Lordships Justice, this 19th day of November, 1748.

NATHAN BAKER.*

Indorsed.—Saml White & Hanah White.

Gov. Gooch to President Palmer, 1748.

Sir,

This is to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter, dated Nov^ber^ 8th, with the Treaty made at Lancaster last summer, which I think was managed with great Prudence.

I am very glad we have purchased the amity of that distant nation of Indian, being sensible of what consequence their adherence to our Interest may be in Case of any future rupture. I have also

* See Col. Rec. Vol. V. p. 385.

received from Cap^{n} Ballet, a Copy of M^{r}. Weiser's Journal, and we are perfectly satisfied with his Conduct, and your disposal of our Present. I am with great esteem,

Your obed^{t} humb Servant,

WILL. GOOCH.

Oc'ber 26th, 1748.

Indorsed—October 26th, 1748. Letter from W^{m}. Gooch to President Palmer.

John Churchman to R. Peters, 1748-9.

My Ffrd:

Richard Peters as I live near on ye Borders of Maryland, I think it my Duty when any thing is likely to Endanger the peace of ye Government, or Interfere with the Royal order, to Give Notice thereof, the present Case that Engages me to Trouble thee wth these lines is this, Joseph England obtaind a warrant of Resurvey last year, which I send Inclosed wth the Reasons, why I could not Execute it, he is Dead about three weeks since, & since his Decease, there appears an Intention to Deprive his Heirs of the land; a Marylander has been wth the agent, who gives Leases for Lands in Talbot's Mannor, & has obtain'd (as I am inform'd) a promise for one on this Land, and now this being land Held under Pennsyl^{a}, before ye year 24, & pay'd Lot & Scott to ye Government Ever Since, if such things are practised on the Border, most, if not all the Inhabitants of West Nottingham, may soon be in ye same Circumstance, for they streatch the Bounds of that man^{r}, so as to Include all that township. Sam^{ll} England, heir to Joseph, deceased, has (in Justice) an undoubted Right to a preference of purchase, (from either side) at least, should therefore be glad to have him some How assisted or secured. In haste I conclude, thy ffrd,

JNO. CHURCHMAN.*

E. Notting^{m}, 12th of 11br, 1748–9.

Indorsed—12th Janry, 1748. Letter to the Secretary about Joseph England's Tract of 500 in Nottingham.

* See Col. Rec. Vol. V. p. 382-3, and pp. 21–2 of this Vol.

Gov. Shirley to Gov. Hamilton, 1749.*

Boston, February 20th, 1748-9.

Sir:

I have lately receiv'd Intelligence (which your Honour will find contain'd in the enclos'd Paper,) of the Preparations making by the French of Canada, for the Settlement of the Lands near Crown Point; and I make no Question of the truth of it, it being a thing I always expected would be attempted by them immediately upon a Peace, and I look upon the affair to be of such Consequence, as to require the utmost Efforts of the English Governments in every proper way to prevent it; and, (besides it being a matter of general Concern to all his Majesty Colonies on the Continent of America, who may in Process of time be equally indangered by the spreading & Growth of the French upon our Borders,) as your Colony, as well as ours, will be more immediately affected herewith, I judg'd it necessary to communicate this Intelligence to you, and to desire that you would maturely consider this matter, and let me have your Opinion what may be proper to be done by the English Governmts (in Case the French should make these Incroachments upon his Majesty's Territories,) for preventing them before it be too late.

I am, with very great Regard,
Sir,
Your Honour's most
obedt Humble Servant,
W. SHIRLEY.

The honble James Hamilton, Esqr.

Indorsed—Governor Shirley's Letter to Governor Hamilton, dated 20th Febry, 1748.

Extract of a Letter from Israel Williams, Esq., to Governour Shirley.

Hatfield, Feby 13th, 1748.

Sir:

The 11th Instant, Colo Willard sent a Frenchman to me, who, the Wednesday before came to Fort Dummer, he calls his name Jean Orange, and gives this account of himself, that seven days before his arrival at Fort Dummer, he came from Crown Point, where he had been for some time a soldier, and that he deserted the service, and came to New England with hopes to get home to France, from whence he came about six years ago. Its possible he may give the

* Gov. Hamilton entered in Nov. 1748. See Col. Rec. Vol. V. p. 362.

true reason of his running away; he is very desirous of getting to Boston, and having an opportunity to send him along without much charge to the Government; I have ordered him to your Excellency to be disposed of as you think proper; he says there is about an hundred Soldiers now at Crown Point, no Indians out, and that both French and Indians are in full Expectation of an Established peace. Also, that the French are preparing, and intend very soon to come & settle the Lands near Crown Point, it seems they little fear the success of Mr. Bollans memorial, (if they have ever heard of it) or the Attempts made to procure the Demolition of that Fort, and their Removal from thence, our people that have been there one and all, represent the Lands East and South of Crown Point for a great extent, exceeding rich, valuable and suitable for Settlements.

Examined,

J. J. WILLARD, Secry.

Indorsed—Extract of a Letter from one at Hatfield to Governor Shirley, dated 13th Febry, 1748.

Deposition of Samuel England, 1749.

Philada *ss.*

This Twenty ninth day of April, 1740, before me Charles Willing, Esqr, personally appeared Samuel England, of East Nottingham, in Chester County, & Province of Pennsylvania, Yeoman, and being of the People called Quakers, did on his Solemn Affirmation, say, declare, and averr, as follows, viz: that on or about the Last Day of March, 1748, this Affirmant was present, when William Hay, then Sub Sheriff for the County of Chester in the said Province, serv'd a Writ issuing out of the Prothonotary's Office at Chester, upon Robert Mitchel, at the Suit of this Affirmant's Father, Joseph England, being as this Deponent understood, and believes an Action brought by the said Joseph England against the said Robert Mitchel, for cutting down and destroying Timber, and other Trespasses committed by him upon part of a Plantation & Tract of Land, which the said Joseph England purchas'd, & held under a Pennsylvania Right for upwards of Twenty five years last past, & during that time has always been reputed and deemed to lye in the said Province of Pennsylvania, (as this Affirmant always understood and believes,) & for which Plantation the said Joseph England, has all along, during that time paid Taxes, and serv'd Offices in Chester County aforesaid. That after the said Writ was so serv'd by the said William Hay upon the said Robert Mitchel, they with the said Joseph England went to a Publick House in Nottingham afore-

said, & this Affirmant accompanyed them thither, & there the said Suit and Difference was Settled and Accommodated, and the said Robert Mitchel, not only agreed to give the said Joseph England, a Bond in Satisfaction for his Damages, but also to give him the said Joseph England, peaceable Possession of the part of the Plantation, which he the said Mitchell had intruded upon as aforesaid, & the said Joseph England consented that the said Mitchel, with his Family, might continue to reside upon the said Plantation 'till the Fall, or he coud provide himself with another Place, but was not by the said Agreement to stay any longer on the said Plantation till this Spring. That the said Robert Mitchel, did thereupon voluntarily, and in a quiet, peaceable manner, (without being any ways compelled thereto, by the said William Hay or Joseph England,) surrender and give up the possession of that part of the said Plantation, whereupon the said Mitchel then lived with his Family to the said Joseph England, who then consented to permit the said Mitchel to continue thereon as aforesaid. That the said Affirmant was present during all the said Transaction between the said Hay, Joseph England & Robert Mitchel, but had then no property or Interest in the said Plantation, or any part thereof, save that this affirmant then Rented the said Plantation as Tenant to his Father.

SAMUEL ENGLAND.

Done at Philadelphia.
Before me,
CHAS. WILLING, Mayor.

Indorsed—Affirmation of Sam[1] England.

DEPOSITION OF JEREMIAH BROWN, 1749.

The Affidavit of Jeremiah Brown, aged Sixty Years, taken before me, one of the Justices of the Peace for the County of Chester, Concerning the Settlement of that Tract of Land in the Possession of Joseph England, Late Deceas'd.

This Affirmant, on his Solemn affirmation Saith, that about A. D. 1706 or 7, James Brown, his father, bought a Small Improvement from John Hance-Steelman, made on that Tract of Land where Joseph England Lived, (without a Right either from Mary-land or Pennsylvania, as he Supposes,) and that his Father, the said James Brown, had the same in Possession, and under Culture untill about A. D. 1713, at which time he, the said James Brown, Bequeathed the said Right of Improvem[t] to his Son William Brown, Brother to

* See Col. Rec. Vol. V. p. 382-9, also letter of Jno. Churchman, p. 19 of this volume.

this affirmant, who did Enjoy and Peaceably possess the same; and about that time the said William Brown got a survey made thereon by Thomas Pierson, a Surveyor of Chester County; and in A. D. 1716, the said William Brown, Deceas'd and left his Widow in Possession; and Esther Brown, the said Widow, about A. D. 1720, did make Sale of the said Improvement or Plantation to Benjamin Vining, of the City of Philadelphia, who, about A. D. 1723, Sold the same to Joseph England, abovementioned, who ever since that time had the s^d^ Tract in Possession, and Paid Lott & Scott to Pennsylvania, and doth not know that ever any of the former Possessors Paid any Tax or Service to the Province of Maryland; and further saith not.

JEREMIAH BROWN.

Affirmed before me this 26th Day of the Second month, call'd April, 1749.

ELISHA GATCHELL.

Conrad Weiser to Gov. H., 1749.

Sir:

By these lines I let you Know that I returned from Shomokin on the 18 of this Instant. I happened to meet the Eldest and youngest Son of Shickelimy at the trading house of Thomas McKee, about 20 miles this side of Shomokin, by whom I was informed that all the Indians had left Shomokin for this present time, because for want of provision, so I thought best to deliver my message there to the Sons of Shickelimy; there was three more of the Six nation Indians, one of them was *Toganogon*, a noted man among the Cayuckers. All what I had to do was to let the Children and grand Children of our deceased friend, Shickelimy, know that the Governor of Pensilvania & his Council Condoled with them for the death of their father, which I did accordingly, and gave them a Small present in order to wipe off their tears according to the Custom of the Indians; the present consisted of six Strowd Matchcoats and seven Shirts, with a string of Wampum; after this was over, I gave another string of Wampum to *Taghneghdoarus*, Shickelimy's Eldest son, and desired him to take upon him the Care of a Chief in the stead of his deceased father, and to be our true Corespondent untill there should be a meeting between the Governor of Pensilvania and some of the Six nation Chiefs, and then he should be recommended by the Governor to the Six nation Chiefs and Confirmed, If he would follow the foot steps of his deceased father. He accepted thereof, and I sent a string of Wampum by Toganogon, (who was then seting out for Cayuckquo,)

* See Col. Rec. Vol. V. p. 383–389.

to Onantago, to let the Counsel of the Six nation Know of Shickelimy's death and my transaction by order of the Governor. There was a necessity for my so doing; the Indians are very uneasy about the white people's Setling beyond the Endless mountains on Joniady, on Sherman's Creek and Else where; they tell me that above 30 familys are setled upon the Indians' land this spring, and dayly more goes to setle thereon; some have setled all most to the heads of Joniady River along the path that leads to Ohio; the Indian says, (and that with truth,) that that Country is their only Hunting ground for dears, because further to the nord there was nothing but Spruce woods and the ground Covered with palm prushes, not a single dear Could be found or killed there; they asked me very Seriously, whether their Brother Onas had given the people leave to setle there. I Informed them of the Contrary, and told them that I Belieft some of the Indians from Ohio, that were down last Sumer, had given liberty (with what right I could not tell) to setle; I told them of what passed on the Tuscarora path last Sumer when the Sheriff and three Magistrates were sent to turn of the people then Setled, and that I then perceived that the people were favoured by some of the Indians above mention[d], by which means the orders of the Governor Came to no Effect; so farr they were Content, and said that the thing must lie as it is till the Six nation Chiefs would be down and converse with the Governor of Pensilvania about the affair. I have nothing Else to add, but remain,

Sir, your very obedient,

CONRAD WEISER.

Heidleberg, Aprill the 22, 1749.

A list of the present I bought of Thomas McKee for the family of Shickelimy, deceased:

	£	s.	d.
To 6 Stroud Matchcoats at 25 a piece,	7	10	00
To 7 Shirts,	3	10	00
To Sundry small things,	00	15	00
To three strings of Wampum I gave, all the three strings amounted to 1500, at five shillings per hundred,	3	15	00
Total,	£15	10	00

Jno. Churchman to R. Peters, 1749.

Friend Peters:

What I Certified Concerning the time the Survey was made on that tract of Land Posses'd by Joseph England, was by the best Information I Could then get, & do believe the Error as to time is on my Side, because I have now had a Certificate of a Survey, produced by Jeremiah Brown, from under Thomas Pearson's own hand, of a Tract which Pearson Surveyed on or Near the same day with the above Mentioned; as Jeremiah Brown seems positive, it is probable that the Conveyance of that Land by Esther, the Widow of William Brown, to Benjamin Vining, was Ruled as to Course & Distance by Thomas Pearson's Survey & Certificate thereof, but now it cannot be found. As to Old John Dawson, I think he was Imposed on by the Marylanders; in his Examination he gave the Enclosed affidavit, in a free, Intelligent manner, which was passed from his mouth without Striving to Wrest an Expression, or putting words in his mouth.

As Hance Steelman was a Marylander, who made the first small Improvement where Joseph England lived by virtue of his own pleasure, the same might therefrom be called Maryland; when James Brown bought the same, no doubt he Intended to hold the same as Pennsylvania, the same Joyning to a Lot of Nottingham in his possession, but no certain Intelligence can yet be had that the said Land was Entered in Either Pennsylvania or Maryland.

To Speak my own Opinion freely, I take the Case to be thus, when James Brown had the Land, & when his Son William first possessed it, it was Intended to be held under Pennsylvania; but the said William Brown being a dealing Man, and his Trading Chiefly towards Maryland, he Chose to stand Neuture in his possession, or perhaps, Rather Inclined toward Maryland, because there was about that time great Threatening to Ceize the produce of our Province, something whereof was Indeed put in Execution by the Marylanders, particularly on a Considerable Quantity of Malt belonging to old William Brown, Brother to James Brown afores[d]; at another time, a Considerable Quantity of both Wheat & flower belonging to Elisha Gatchell, also some Barrels of flower belonging to Samuel Litler, also some Tobacco of Joseph Hainses.

When Joseph England Possesed the Land, he liking the Constitution of our province best, Chose to hold under Pennsylvania, being Near a Mile to the North of the East Line from the Mouth of Octararo, but was liked None the better therefore by his Maryland Neighbours; and the said Joseph England being a Man in Considerable Business, & often from whom, & holding his Land under a Slender Title, a particular Neighbour of his took Advantage thereof, in the first place by purchasing John Lackland's Right of Tenantship, & thereby took possession of that part of the said five hundred Acres, and without all Question paid Suit and Service to Maryland.

Therefore, In the said Joseph England's Absence made another small Incursion & Raised a Log House or Cabin where Mary McGladen lives, Took possesion thereof & held under Maryland to Strengthen the Title, & Its probable the Tenants have paid Suit & Service Ever since to the province of Maryland; and the borders being in some Confusion for want of a setled Boundaries, some other persons holding under Pennsylvania, being greedy to enlarge their Claims Cleared some other Part of the said five hundred Acres which Lay Convenient to their Plantations & Inclosed the same and so have kept Possession thereof, & most thereof before A. D. 1737, Hinted at, in the return of the Warrant granted to Joseph England, 12th, 9th br, 1747.

As to the Depositions of Robert Mitchell & Robert McFadons, so far as they Relate to William Hey, Sub Sheriff of our County, in making that Arrest & giving Joseph England Possession, are Realy True, it was done Privately & has given great uneasyness to Every well Disposed Person to the Peace of the Province, & generally Accounted as an Imprudent, dangerous Action.

Wee being Present, & Concerned in Examining into the above Particulars, do, as believing the above to be true, Subscribe our hands.

ELISHA GATCHELL,
JNO. CHURCHMAN,
JOSEPH HAINES,
MORDECAI JAMES.

2nd mo. 26th, 1749.

P. S. Samel England has not yet accepted of a Lease.*

Indorsed.
Jno. Churchman's Report.

Extracts of Letters from Albany, 1749.

An exact Extract of the Letter written at Albany, July 29th, O. S, 1748, by Master Shirley, Governour of Boston, to the Marquis dé La Gallisoniere, Governour Genl of New France.

. . . . . the Indians of the Six Nations, who have been under his Majesty's Protection ever since the first settlemt of the English in North America, & considered as Vassals of the Crown of Great Britain. . . . . .

. . . . . as those Indians are the King our Master's Vassals & Engaged in this War.

. . . . . and in the Letter of Mr Clinton, New York, 24th May, . . . the Six Nations Subjects to his Majesty. . . .

* See Col. Rec. Vol. V. p. 377, 384–389.

This Extract has been carefully, and word for word drawn out from the abovementioned Letters by me, one of his Maj^{s} Supreme Council of Quebec, the 4th 9^{ber}, O. S. 1748, in Quebec.

PERTHUIER.

Rolland Michel Barrin Chevalier Marquis de La Galissoniere, Chevalier de L' ordre Militaire de St Louis, Capitaine des Vaisseaux du Roy Commandant général pour sa Majesté en toute La Nouvelle France, terres et province de La Louisiane.

Francois Bigot, Chevalier Conseiller du Roy En Ses Conseilles Intendant de Justice, Police finances et de La Marine, &c. Certifions a tous qu'il appartiendra que Le St Perthuis, Counseiller au Conseil Superieur de Quebec a Signé L'Extrait de L'autre part, et que foy doit Estre ajouteé a Sa Signature. Entemoin dequoy Nous avons Signé et fait Contresigner ces Présentes par L'oy de nos Secretaires et a Jecellier fait apposer Le Cachet de nos armes, Fait a Quebec Le 7th 9bre, 1748, La Galissoniere.

[L. S.] [illegible] [L. S.] [illegible] BIGOT.

Par Monseigneur [illegible] Par Monseigneur

PAUTRIVES. [illegible] DENHEMEUR.

Extract of a Letter to His Excell^{y} Govr Clinton, from Coll^{l} Wm. Johnson, Dated the 28th April, 1749.

I must acquaint your Excell^{y} that the Inclosed Extract of your & Govr Shirley's Letter, (in the Malicious Manner the French represented it to some of the five Nations who went there last Fall,) had Caused a great deal of uneasiness among the Indians, telling them that you & Govr Shirley by your Letters, looked upon them as Slaves or Dogs to the English, & sev^{l} other confounded wicked things they had Infused into the Indian's heads, among the rest begged of them to be watchful & on their Guard, that the English were Determined the first Opportunity to Destroy them all. I assure your Excell^{y} I had hard work to beat these, & sev^{l} other cursed Villanous things told them by the French, out of their heads, & make them easy. there are sev^{l} Cannoes of Goods sent already to the five Nations by the French, & more expected Daily, so that they are now Endeavouring all they can at any Rate, to gain the friendship of the five Nations.

WM. JOHNSON.

Petition of Inhabitants near Digges's Choice, 1749.

To the right Honourable James Hamilton, Esquire, Lewtenant Governour of the three Lower Counties of New Castle, Kent, and Sussex upon Delaware, and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pensilvania.

The Humble Petition of the Inhabitants of Little Connevago, in in the County of Lancaster, on the west Side of Susquenanna, Complaining, Shew unto your Lordship, that they Live adjoyning to a Certain Tract of Land Belonging to John Diggs, which Said Tract Contains Six thousand eight Hundred and twenty-two Acres & a half, which Said Tract he holds by a Maryland right, and your Petitioners further Shew, that ye Said Diggs now Claims three thousand Acres More by Vertue of a re-Survey, on which late Survey your Petitioners are now living on, and have Warrants for their respective Tracts in this Province, and had the Same Laid out Accordingly, Notwithstanding which, Said Diggs Daily threatens to Sue them, unless they pay him a hundred pound Maryland Currency ℔ Hundred, or Pass their Bonds for the Same, bearing Interest from the date, wch said Bonds he would directly Send to Squire Carroll & Squire Dullany, to whom the Said Diggs has Mortgaged all his Concerns in this Province, Now Your Petitioners Shew, that they are under a great Concern and Daily terror lest they Should be Carried into Maryland, and there Confined, being Sensible of the Ill Usage they would meet with there, and the Vast Expences that would Acrew. Wherefore your Petitioners most Humbly request that you will use Some speedy Means for their relief, or otherwise they will be oblidged to quit their Plantations, and they as in Duty bound will always pray.

Signed by Hendrick Seller, and 13 other names badly written.

Indorsed.—Petition against Mr Digges of Maryland, for extending his Claims beyond his Patent.

Presented at Newcastle, 10th May, 1749.

Gov. Clinton to Gov. Hamilton, 1749.

Fort George, May 22^d, 1749.

S^r.

Your Honour will perceive from the enclosed extracts of Coll. Johnson's Letter* to me, and of a paper which the Governour of Canada had sent among the Indians, what artifices he is useing now at the Commencement of the Peace, to infuse Jealousies among them of the English, and to withdraw their Affections from us; I have ordered our Interpreter to go to Oswego with presents & Instruc-

* See page 26.

tions, not only to confirm the five Nations in their Fidelity to the Crown of Great Britain, But likewise to fix the Missisagues, & other Nations to the Westward in their Alliance with us, which may be of the greatest Service to the British Colonies in case of any future War with France, and also in the Brittish Commerce with all the Indians to the Westward. And as we have gained a considerable Influence over these Nations to the Westward, & who before knew little of the English, while the French have at the same time lost theirs. We ought I think, not to be negligent in useing all the means in our power to preserve these advantages, which we have got. I shall be well pleased with every information or advice which your Honour shall think proper to give me for this purpose. And as your Traders go among the Indian Nations to the Westward, I do not doubt you will take care to employ the means you may have thereby of promoting the Brittish Interest among them, and of defeating the Designs of the French.

I am with great Regard
Sir
Your most obedient
humble servant,
G. CLINTON.

To His Honour Govr Hamilton.

Indorsed.

Letter from Govr Clinton, dated 22^d May, 1749.
Read in Council, 3^d June, 1749.

Extract of a Letter from Captain Marshall, dated Albany, 23^d June, 1749.

Hon^d S^r

I take this opertunity to let you know that I received the inclosed Letter from the Commander of Crown Point this Morning, & the Sergeant & five Men go away to-morrow. I thought it was proper to let the Officer know that I received his letter, I send your Excellency a Copy of mine to him, which I hope you won't disapprove of, and as the Sergeant told me that Peace was not proclaimed in Canada, and as I had a proclamation by me I sent it inclosed to the Officer at Crown Point, in asking the Serjeant several questions, I desired to know which way he thought those six Indians were gone, he told me, he thought they went Schaghkoeke way, if so, it is thought they will cut off some People there, which if they do, every body that has lately settled, will leave their Farms again. These two New England Men that came with this Sergeant & Party told me, they saw an Army of near a Thousand Men march in different bodys from Canada, this day three weeks steering their way for Bellé Rivier, the back of Philadelphia, in order to prevent the English from settling

in them parts, so I thought it my Duty to acquaint you of it. These men went from the Government of Boston last March, in order to get some of their Prisoners, but without success, for they have not brought one, for they said the Governour of Canada told them that he would not part with one Prisoner, till all his Prisoners were given up to him, this is what they said, and was ready to take their oaths of.

a True Copy,
G. CLINTON.

Gov. Clinton to Gov'r Hamilton, 1749.

Fort George, 28th June, 1749.

Sr:

Inclosed is an Extract of a Letter to me, from the Commanding Officer at Albany, which I received this morning, and as the affair may prove of bad Consequence to the Province of Pensylvania, if the Inhabitants are not upon their guard, & should be surprized by the Enemy; I therefore thought it for His Majesty's Service to send this.

I have just time to send you an Affirmation & Affadavit to give you an insight into the Steps that are taking by a vile Faction in my Government.

I should be glad if you would send as soon as convenient the Guns I Lent to your Province,

and am
Sr,
with great Respect,
Your very humble
and obedient Servant,
GEO. CLINTON.

To James Hamilton, Esqe.

P. S. I must entreat the favour of you to forward the inclosed for Mr. Catherwood by the first Vessel for England, and excuse ye hurry I am in on these affairs meeting the Assembly this day. I am greatly obliged to you for your kind wish, but you will perceive by ye inclosed I shant have much peace, not till I hear from England. G. C.

Indorsed.

Governor Clinton's Lre, dated 28th June, 1749, to Gov'r Hamilton of Pa.

* Printed Vol. iii. p. 506.

GEO. CROGHAN TO , 1749.

July 3d, 1749.

Sr:

Last night I Received yr favor by Express from The Governor, & after Considering ye Accounts Related By ye two New England Men of ye Frenchs Desinge to hinder the English from Makeng a Setlement on Ohio, Must Proceed from an alarm that Mr. Cresap & Mr. Parker Spread amongst ye Ingans Last fall that ye Virginians was going to Setle a Branch of ohio Calld Yougagain & that then they wou'd Suply ye Indians with goods Much Cheaper than they Col'd be Suplyd from Pensilvaina, Butt to my Certain knowlidge that Report had nott its Desired affectt, for Instead of gaining an Interest Amongst ye Indians itt gave them an aversion to Mr. Parker, for the Indians Dos nott Like to hear of there Lands being Setled over Allegany Mountain, & in particular by ye Virginians, Butt My Opinion is that they will nott Come To Ohio, Butt Rather go by Lake Erie towards Wabauce in order to Secure a very Considerable branch of Trade amongst ye Twightwees which has been out of thire hands Some years past and of Considerable advantage to this Province, & itt is well known ye French will Spare no Troble to advance thire Trade, Nor No people Carries on ye Indians Trade in So Regular a manner as the French. I wish with all My hart ye Government of this Province wol'd Take Some Method to Regulate ye Indian Trade, & to prevent Many Disorders which Arises from ye Carring of Sperits in ye Indian Cuntrys. I have this Morning Dispatchd of one of My hands to ye Borders of Lake Erie, to Andrew Montour, who is Living there, in order that he Should Meet Me att Ohio, for which Place I will Sett out on Monday Next My Self. I have Given Instructions to Andrew to find out if posable whether there be any French on Lake Erie or there Abouts, & then to Meet Me where the body of the Indians are Setled on Ohio. I Make no Doubt butt the French will Make use of unfair Methods they Can to bring over all ye Indians they can to there Interest, But I am of opinion that ye Indians are So well grafted in ye English Interest that they will Nott be Esey Deceved by the French. I will follow ye Governour's Instructions when I Go to Ohio, and all Methods that is proper for Securing ye Interest of the Indians, & when I Come to Ohio if I find there is any Truth in this Report or any Danger Apace, I will Stay att Ohio with Androw Monteur in order to keep ye Indians Study, & Dispatch a Mesinger with News to ye Governor, if ye report Should prove false, as I hope itt will, I shall have ye plesher of Seeing you in Town after My Return from Ohio by first of Augst, Till when I remain,

Dr Sr,

your Most humble Servant,

GEO. CROGHAN.

Sr:

Yesterday Came by My house four Indians warriers from ye Southard, on thire Return to Onondago, & about one Mile below My house towards Harris's ferrey they Gott a Drinking at a Still-house, & in ye Night one of them gott Stabd in three pleses in ye body & Dyed on the Spott, ye Other three being Drunk I Cannott yett find outt whether he was kill'd by one of them Selves or a white Man, But I Shall Secure all ye white Men that was att ye plese till I find outt the Truth of ye affair, & then I will Lett you know More fully ye Truth of ye Matter, Butt I think all Stillers & Tavern keepers Should be fined for Making ye Indians Drunk, & Espesely warriers.

Sr I remain

yrs as before,

G. C.

Indorsed.

George Croghan's Lre, July 1749.

Gov. Clinton to Gov. Hamilton, 1749.

July 24, 1749.

Sir:

Collo Johnson, who is now with me, has received a letter from a Friend of his at Oswego, dated 2d July, as follows: We have various reports of an Army gone to Ohio; Some making it very Numerous, others but a few, so that we can't tell which to confide in, tho' it is beyond doubt that there is one of Some Sort, as it has been told here, by Several Indians, both Cocknawagaes and others; and by a Sachem from Onondago, who came here this day, we have ye following accounts, which he Says he had from Some Indians from Canada, that the French had Spoke to the Fighters of the Cocknawogaes with a Belt of Wampum, for their assistance, but were refused by them, and they then applyed to the Sachems for their Interest with the Young Men, but they refused them also, and told them they had been agreat while fighting for them, and as it was now peace they would not take up the Hatchett again, &c.; and he says they were also refused in the like manner by Several other Indians who they applied to for assistance, and that they had in all but Six Indians that joined them, three of which are Cocknowagoes, and yt this Army consisted in all of three hundred Men, and ye Six Indians. Jancourt is gone on the expedition, and was to have Commanded the Indians, if they could have prevailed with them to have gone.

This account, tho' Imperfect, Seems the most authentick I have heard. I have the Honour to be, with great Respect,

Sir,

Your most Obedient,

humble Servant,

GEO. CLINTON.

Honble Governor Hamilton,
Fort George at.
New York, 24 July,
1749.

Indorsed.

Governor Clinton's Letter to Governor Hamilton, dated 25th July, 1749.

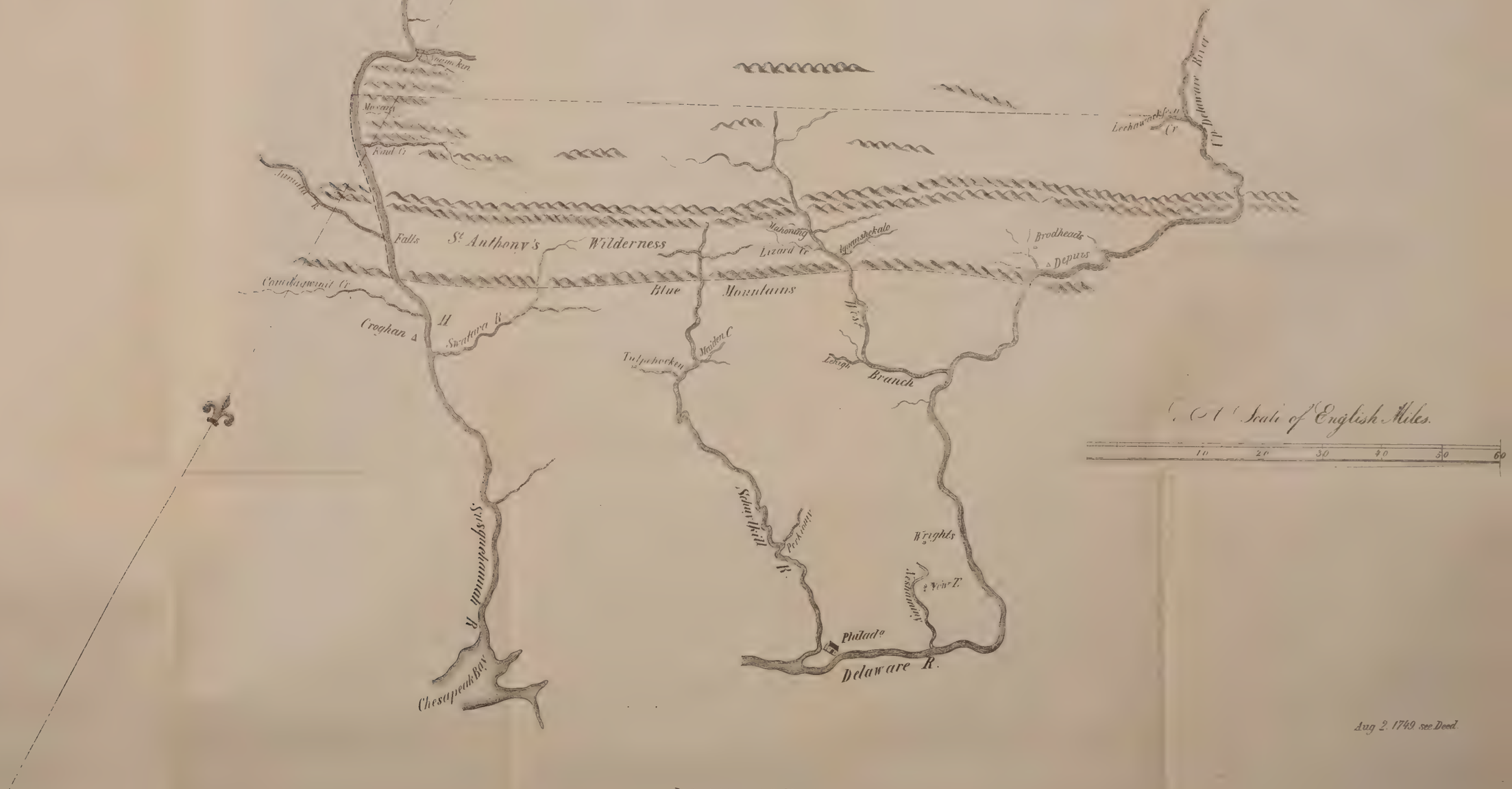
Indian Deed for Lands between Delaware & Susquehanna, 1749.

Know all men by these Presents, that We, Canasatêgo, Sataganâchly, Kanalshyiacâyon and Canechwadeeron Sachems or Chiefs of the Indian Nations, called the Onontagers, Cayianockea, Hanatssany Agâsh Tass, Caruchianâchqui Sachems or Chiefs of the Indian Nation called the Sinickers; Peter Ontachsax and Christian Diaryhogon Sachems or Chiefs of the Indian Nation called the Mohocks; Saristagnoah, Watshatuhon and Anuchnaxqua Sachems, or chiefs of the Indian Nation called the Oneyders; Tâwis Tawis; Kachnoaraaseha and Ta Kachquöantas Sachems or Chiefs of the Indian Nation called the Cayuikers; Tyierox, Ralichwanonàchshy Sachems or Chiefs of the Indian Nation called the Tuscorrorow; Tachnechdorus Sago guchiâthon & Cachnaora Kâtack-Ke the Sachems or chiefs of the Indian Nation called the Shomokin Indians; Nutimus and Quàlpaghack, Sachems or chiefs of the Indian Nation called the Delawares, and Backsinôsa Sachem or chief of the Indian Nation called the Shawanes, for and in consideration of the sum of Five hundred Pounds lawfull money of Pennsylvania, by the Honourable Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, Esquires, Proprietaries of the Province of Pennsylvania, &c., well and truly paid unto the said Canasatêgo Sataganâchly, Kanalshyiacâyon, Canechwadeeron, Cayianockea, Hanatssany, Agâsh Tass, Caruchianâchqui, Peter Ontachsax, Christian Diaryhogon, Saristagnoah, Watshatuhon Anuchnaxqua, Tâwis Tawis, Kachnoaraasèha Ta Kachquoantas, Tyierox, Ralichwanoaâch-Shy, Tachnecdorus, Sagoguchiathon, Cachnaora, Katack-Ke, Nutimus, Qualpaghack and Backsinosa before the Sealing and Delivery of these Presents, the Receipt whereof they the said Sachems or Indian Chiefs, do hereby Acknowledge themselves to be fully Satisfied, contented and paid, and thereof do acquit and forever discharge the said Proprietaries, Thomas Penn

and Richard Penn, their Heirs, Successors and Assigns by these Presents, They the said Canasatego Sataganâchly, Kanalshyiacayon, Canechwadeêre, Cayianôckea, Hanatssany, Agash Tass, Caruchianachqui, Peter Ontachsax, Christian Diaryhogon, Saristagnoah Watshatahon, Anuchnaxqua, Tawis Tawis, Kachnoaraasêha Ta Kachquoantas, Tyicrox, Ralichwanonâch-shy Tachnechdorus, Sago guchiathon, Cachnaora, Katack-Ke, Nutimus, Qualpaghach and Backsinosa for and on behalf of all the Indian Nations aforesaid and every of them Have given, granted, Bargained, Sold, Released and confirmed, and by these Presents Do and every of them Doth give, grant, bargain, sell, release and confirm unto the said Proprietaries, Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, their Heirs, Successors and Assigns, All that Tract and parcell of Land situate, lying and being within the following Limits and Bounds, and thus described, (that is to say) Beginning at the Hills or Mountains called in the Language of Five Nations, Indians, the Tyanuntasachta or Endless Hills, and by the Delaware Indians the Keckachtany Hills, On the East Side of the River Susquehannah, being in the North West line or Boundary of the Tract of Land formerly purchased by the said Proprietaries, from the said Indian Nations, by their Deed of the Eleventh day of October, Anno Dom. One Thousand Seven hundred and Thirty-Six, And from thence running up the said River by the several Courses thereof to the first or nearest Mountain to the North side of the Mouth of the Creek called, in the Language of the said Five Nation Indians, Cantaguy, and in the language of the Delaware Indians, Maghonioy, and from thence extending by a direct or Straight line to be run from the said Mountain on the North side of the said Creek to the main branch of Delaware River, at the North side of the Mouth of the Creek called Lechawachsein and from thence to return across Lechawachsein Creek aforesaid down the River Delaware, by the several Courses thereof, to the Kekachtany Hills aforesaid, and from thence by the range of the said Hills to the Place of Beginning, as more fully appears in and by the Map or Draught hereunto annexed,* in which the several lines, courses and Boundaries of the said hereby intended to be granted Premises are for the better explanation and distinction thereof described in Red Lines, And also all the parts of the said Rivers Susquehannah and Delaware, from shore to shore, which are opposite to the said hereby granted Tract of Land, and all the Island in the said Rivers, or either of them, Together with all the Soils, Lands, Fields, Woods, under Woods, Mountains, Hills, Valleys, Savannahs, Fenns, Swamps, Isles, Lakes, Rivers, Creeks, Waters, Rivulets, Bays, Inlets, Mines, Minerals, Quarries, Rights, Liberties, Privileges Advantages, Hereditaments and Appurtenances thereunto belonging, or in any wise appertaining, and all the Right, Title, Intrest, Property, Claim and Demand Whatsoever of the said Canasatêgo Sataganâchly Kanalshyiacayôn, Canechwadeêron, Cayianôckea, Hants-

* See Lithograph Sheet.

THE MAP OR DRAUGHT TO WHICH THE WITHIN DEED REFERS.



Aug 2. 1749 see Deed

Lith of A. Brett & Co. Philad^a

sany, Agash Tass, Caruchianachqui, Peter Ontachsax, Christian Diaryhogon, Saristagnoah, Watshatuhon, Anuchnaxqua, Tâwis Tâwis, Kachnoaraaseha, Ta Kachquoantas, Tyierox, Ralickwanonach-shy, Tachnechdorus Sago guchiâthon, Cachnaora Katack-Ke, Nutimus Qualpaghach and Backsinosa or any of them or of any Person or Persons of or belonging to the Indian Nations aforesaid, every or any of them, To have and to hold the said Tract of Land and Parts of the said Several Rivers of Susquehannah and Delaware herein before described, Hereditaments and Premises hereby granted and Released or mentioned or intended so to be and every part and parcell thereof, with their and every of their Appurtenances unto the said Proprietaries, Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, their Heirs, Successors and Assigns, To the only proper use and Behoof of the said Proprietaries Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, their Heirs, Successors and Assigns for ever, So that neither the said Canastêgo, Sataganâchly, Kanalshyiacayôn, Canechwadeeron, Cayianockea Hantssany, Agash Tass, Caruchianachqui, Peter Ontachsax, Christian Diaryhogon, Saristagnoah, Watshatuhon, Anuchnaxqua, Tawis Tawis, Kachnoaraasêha Ta Kachquoantas, Tyierox, Ralichwanonach-shy Tacknechdôrus, Sago guchiathon, Cachnaora, Katack-Ke, Nutimus, Qualpaghach, Backsinosa, nor any other of the said Indian Nations, nor their or any of their Heirs, Descendants, Successors or Assigns shall or may at any time hereafter have claim, challenge or demand any Right, Title, Interest or Property of, in, or to the said Tract and Parcel of Land, Heriditaments and Premises hereby granted and released or mentioned or intended to be hereby granted and Released, nor any part or parcel thereof, But of and from the same and every part thereof shall be barred and for ever excluded by these Presents, And that the said Proprietaries, Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, their Heirs, Successors and Assigns, Shall and Rightfully may from time to time, and at all times, for ever hereafter quietly and Peaceably Have, hold, occupy, Possess and enjoy all and Singular the said herein before described parts of the said Rivers Susquehannah and Delaware, from Shore to Shore, with all the Islands therein, or in either of them, And all the said described Tract of Land, Hereditaments and Premises hereby granted and Released or mentioned or intended so to be with their and every of their Appurtenances, without the Lett, Trouble, hinderance or molestation of the said Canasatêgo Sataganachly, Kanalshyiacayor Canechwadeêron, Cayianockea Hanatssany, Agash Tass, Caruchianachqui, Peter Ontachsax, Christian Diaryhogan, Saristagnoah, Watshatuhon, Anuchnaxqua, Tawis Tawis, Kacknoaraaseha, Ta Kackquoantas, Tyierox, Ralichwanonach-shy Tachnechdorus, Sagoguchiathon, Cachnaora, Katack-Ke, Nutimus, Qualpaghach and Backsinosa, or any of them, or any others of the said Indian Nations, or any of them, or of any other Person or Persons, Claiming or to claim the same or any part thereof, by, from or under them or any of them, in any wise, according to the True intent and mean-

ing of these Presents. In Witness whereof the hereinbefore named Sachems, or Indian Chiefs, for themselves and for and on behalf of all the People of the said several and respective Indian Nations herein before named, and every of them have hereunto set their hands and Seals, at Philadelphia, the Twenty-Second day of August, in the Year of Our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and forty-nine, and in the Twenty-third Year of the Reign of King George the Second over Great Britain, &c.

Oneyders.

ANUCHNAXQUA, [L. S.]

Cayuikers.

TAWIS TAWIS, [L. S.]
KACNOARAASEHA, [L. S.]
TA KACHQUONTAS [L. S.]

Tuscurrorows.

TYIEROX, [L. S.]
RALICHWANANACH-SHY, [L. S.]

Shomokins.

TACHNEEDORUS, [L. S.]
SAGOGUCHIATHON, [L. S.]
CACHNAORA KATACK-KE, [L. S.]

Mohocks.

PETER ONTACHSAX, [L. S.]
CHRISTIAN DIARYHOGON, [L. S.]

Shawanes.

BACKSINOSA, [L. S.]

Delawares.

NUTIMUS, [L. S.]
QUALPAGHACH, [L. S.]

Onontagers.

CANASATEGO, [L. S.]
SATAGANACKLY, [L. S.]
KANALSHYIACAYON, [L. S.]
CANECHWADEERON, [L. S.]

Sinichers.

CAYIANOCKEA, [L. S.
HANATSANY, [L. S.]
AGASH TASS, [L. S.]
CARUCHIANACHQUI [L. S.]

Oneyders.

SARISTAGNOAH, [L. S.]
WATSHATUHON, [L. S.]

Signed, Sealed and Delivered in the Presence of WILL'M LOGAN, one of the Council of the Province;
EDWARD WARNER; LYNFORD LARDNER, Receiver General of the Province;
WM. PETERS; RICHARD PETERS, Secretary of the Province;
SAM'L KIRK EVANS; JAMES LOGAN, jr., JOSEPH GALLOWAY;
JAMES KINSEY, WILL. HAMILTON, THOMAS LLOYD;
CONRAD WEISER, Interpreter, THOS. COOKSON, THOS. WHARTON, Junr;
CHARLES STOWE, THOMAS CARRELL.

Indorsed..

Pennsylvania ss:

On the first day of May Anno Domini 1751, before me, William Allen, Esqr, Chief Justice of Pennsylvania aforesaid, Personally appeared William Peters and Richard Peters, both of the City of Philadelphia, in the said Province, Gentlemen, and made oath on the Holy Evangelists, that the within Deed being first read and fully explained to the several Indians within named, as Parties thereto and then present, by Conrad Weiser, their Interpreter, the same Deed was on or about the day of the date thereof, by the said several Indians signed (By setting their respective marks thereto as within) Sealed and as their Act and Deed, delivered to the Honourable James Hamilton, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor of the said Province,

&c., for the use of the within named Proprietaries, and that they the said Deponents did then, amongst the Rest of the Witnesses thereto, Subscribe their names to Attest the due execution thereof as within appears. Witness my Hand and Seal the said first day of May, 1751.

WILL. ALLEN. [L. S.]

Recorded the 16th day of May, 1752.*

Deposition of John Murphy, 1749.

Cecil County ss:

John Murphy Mak's Oath on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God, that in the Year one thousand Seven Hundred and thirty Six he became a tenant under Henry Baker in a house then built on a Certain trackt or parcel of Land lying in Cecil County, but often Claimed by Joseph England, Some Distance from the sd Joseph England's then present possession to the Westward, but ye sd Deponent Understood that ye sd Joseph England's Claim went Near, or about a Quarter of a Mile More to the West than where he Lived, and that he Lived on sd Land three years and always During sd time paid his taxes and Customs to Maryland, and that After him James Nevile Lived on sd Land, then Robert Mitchel, Who Does Still Continue to Live there to this Day, and is and Ever was within his knowledge adeem'd as Maryland. Sworn before me, this 9th Day of September, 1749.

BENJ'N CHEW.

Deposition of Marg. McCleary, 1749.

Margaret McCleary Mak's Oath on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God, that in the year One thousand Seven Hundred and thirty two, her Husband, Robert McCleary, (now Deceas'd) Bought the Plantation Whereon She now Lives, of Henry Baker, and her sd Husband always paid taxes and Customs to Maryland till his Death, and that she has Done So Ever Since; that Joseph England often Demanded Possession of sd Plantation, tho' Never did as She knows of Shew aney Right for it; that She, ye Deponent, Understands the sd Plantation to be the Most Northermost part of a tract of Land, Containing three Hundred Acres, Cautioned by William Brown, which he Sold to one Hughs, a Welchman; that John Sackland Lived on sd place before they came to it, and it Ever was adeem'd as Maryland. Sworn before me, One of his Lordship's Justices of the Peace for sd County, this 9th day of Septbr, 1749.

NATHAN BAKER.

* In office of Recorder of Deeds, Philadelphia, H. Vol. II., p. 204., from which this is printed; the original is at Harrisburg.

List of Inhabitants over Susquehanna, 1749.

The following is a List of the most remarkable Inhabitants in the Several Town'ps & Settlements over Sasquehanna in the S^d^ Valley fit to discharge Publick Ofices.

In Newbury Town'p on Sasquehanna, between Yellow Breeches Creek & great Conowago,

[Jno. Day.] John Day, Nathan Hussey,[d]
John Hussey, John Garretson,[y]

In Warrington Town'p, to the Westward of the former,

[Tho. Cox.] Thomas Cox, Richard Cox,
[John Douglas.] John Douglass, Alexander[s] Underwood,
Robert Comer.

In Hungtington Town'p, Westward of former,

[Mathew Dill.] Mathew Dill, Alexander Grimes,
James Murphy, William Weyerman,

In Tyrone & Mannallan Town'ps, to the Southward and Westward of the former,

Walter Carson, William Lindsay,
[Jno. Cox.] William Proctor,[n] John Cox,
David McConachy, Archibald McGrew.

In Mash Creek Settlement,

William Buchanan, William Hamilton,
[Hans Hamilton.] Hans Hamilton,[s] John Armstrong.

In Rock Creek Settlement & little Conawago, Eastward of former,

[Pat. Watson.] Mathew Gault, Patrick Watson, [maj.],
George Black, William Greer,
James Murray.

Between these & Tyrone,

William King, Rich'd Brown,
[n.] Robert Dickson, John Carroll,

To the Eastward of former lye Mount Charles Town'p, Conawago Town'p, & another adj. to Warrington, wherein are

[n]. Daniel Slegle, [n]. John Huston,
[n]. John Abbot, [n]. Samuel Hendricks,
John Lease.

Between the former, the river & the Maryland line are Manchester, Upper & Lower Hallem, & some other Town'ps, wherein are

Mathias Lambert, Balthaser Knertzer,
George Myer, Martin Miller,
[Geo. Swope.][no] Charles Jones, George Swope,
[Jno. Wright.] John Adlum, John Wright,[y]
Jacob Miller, another family Name John Wright late Trustee John Wright, Junr.

Mr. Webb:

I have sent you here such of the names of the most remarkable Setlers on the other Side the river, as I can at present remember. Mr. James Wright can inform you of the others, & is the fittest person I know to give you or the Assembly further light in this affair.

I am your Frd,

GEO. SMITH.

Directed.

To Mr. James Webb, here.

Indorsed.

Justices for York County, 8ber, 1749.

David Magaw to Richard Peters, 1749--50.

Sir:

The advantage to the Propriators & the Inhabitants of the valey is the reason I give you the trouble of my thoughts of this being the most Central place and properest Situation for the County town, and had it been Inspected into at first, before it was made a purchase of from the Proprietor, I make no doubt but there would been a reserve thereof made for that use, there being Such a large Scope of ground which can't be found, the like a town could be made in this valey but it Self.

I B'live you are prity Sencable thereof your Self of the large bounds lyes along the South mountain betwixt Canigochege & Mr. Dunning's, wh has Several miles broad without Inhabitants, & I am very Sencable of what meadow can be made by the Inhabitants to serve a town hear to leatest posterity, So that a purchase of land that seems high at present, might some few years to Come be thought was nothing of a Extravagant price, & I believe there is land close Situated might be obtained by purchase or in exchange that it would not be hard to enlarge it to Satisfaction and the good of the people—the propriator's Honnour. Where then wo'ld the great loss be that the propriator Purchase a little land for Shuch Conveniency at a price that another wo'ld give for the same that had no Shuch view to buy it as that hear the County town Should be, & no where Else. I mean three hundred acres from Mr. Shippen, the Lowery, has priced may have by the Edge of this town, which I hear now, Since John Lowery's death, in the woods they are not a mind to have, besides what Mr. Shippen ofered him Self, and I am prity Sencable what land of his besides, without a town is made hear, wo'ld be of no great Consideration to him more than the large Scope I Spoke of can Ever be to the propriator without it be

for the Same use, & thereby Mr. Shippen & the Inhabitants, without purchase is made from him, will unavoidably have the most good of the whole, as there is no place for a town shutable, to ocupie these Convienceys but it Self.

Sir, yr friend & Servant,

DAVID MAGAW.

P. S. It is to be considered at what Distance a County town is made from a Central place, when nature Seemed wo'ld have pitched it, when there is not an equivalent advantage by wh Even the other place, that far out of the way, is alwaise opression to Some, to what Ever the Degree, as well as is it the gain of the oficer at the expence of the poor; I mean Sherifs, by four-pence a mile, by what is the distance may be aded together in the Continuance thereof, wo'ld rise to a fine Sum, whilst the good of a people is the praise of a Commonwealth, & the Honour of its Chief. I hope it will be thought of.

yrs, &c., D. M.

Shippensburg,
Febr 1st, 1749--50.

Directed.
To Mr. Richard Peters, Secretr,
in Walnut Street, Philadelphia.

Indorsed.
David Magaw's Lre about County Town at Cumberland, Febr'y, 1749--50.

Gov. Ogle to Gov. Hamilton, 1750.

Annapolis, Feb. 3d, 1749--50.

Sir:

I take this opportunity, by Mr. Parker, of acknowledging the Favour of your Letter of the 11th of Decr. Your Former of the 23d* of Sepr, I answered by the first opportunity the post offered after it came to my hands.

As I make no doubt of your receiving my Said Letter of the 30th of Novr,* having put it myself into the hands of our Postmaster, I shall not trouble you with the Repetition of what I then Said, but only assure you, that it would give me the greatest pleasure to see all our Boundaries clearly settled to the mutual Ease & Satisfaction of all Parties, & I hope the true Extension of your Line of Longitude will be the Sooner ascertained, as I understand the Governr of Virginia is as sollicitous about it as we are, and indeed I can't well see how the Gentlemen of the Ohio Company can proceed to settle the Lands in their intended Grant before this is done.

I find it is thought by Some that the said Line may extend near the Meridian of the Fountain head of Potomack, if it should go further West we shall be out of the Affair, & you & Virginia will have the Point to settle between you. As you may probably know more of this matter than I can pretend to, I shall be glad of your Opinion upon the subject, in the mean time I beg leave to remain, with very great Regard,

Sir,
your most obedient
& humble Servant,

SAM. OGLE.*

Indorsed.

Letter from Govr Ogle, concerning the extens^n of the Temporary Line, Dat. Feb'y 3^d 1749.

Wm. Parsons to R. Peters, 1749--50.

To Richard Peters, Esqr,

Sir: herewith you have all the Papers that ever came to my Hands relating to the Temporary Line, being one old Draught in M^r. Jacob Taylor's Hand-writing; copied, as I imagine, from a large folio Book in the Surveyor General's Office; John Taylor's Draught as far Westward as Conegochege, and M^r. Eastburn's Field Marks & Plan with his rough Draught of a Return, which Return as it was made to Governor Thomas, it is not improbable that he may have taken it with him, if it is not amongst the Proprietor's Papers. I hope what was done with regard to the Bridge at the upper End of the Town will have your Approbation, if any thing further is necessary M^r. Scull will have Opportunities enough to communicate it to me. Upon my opening to M^r. Weiser the Affair you gave me in Charge, it affected him pretty much, as he looked upon it a matter of great Importance, but did not hesitate Obedience. He is entirely of Opinion that it will be best to proceed from South to North, and that it will be impracticable to prosecute the Business till some time in August next, as well upon Account of Subsistance, which will not be to be met with in those parts before that Time, as upon Account of the Gnats, Musketoes, flies and other vermin which are intollerable in the Summer Season, and especially to Horses. It will also be necessary, he thinks, to have at least two Indians, Shikallimo's Sons, with us. And these may be necessary even in extending the Temporary Line. The Number of Persons necessary cannot yet be determined, because if we go at a Time when Provision is not to be had in the desert Woods, a greater Number

* See Col. Rec. Vol. V. p. 422.

will be wanting then, as it must all be carried with us. I have a young Man in my Service who understands something of Surveying and as it may contribute something towards expediting the Affair to have one with me that I can trust now and then to continue the Course, when it may be necessary for me to take a view of the adjacent Country, or in Case of any Disaster, I propose with your Approbation to take him with me. As he is a young Man he may happen to be useful hereafter to the Proprietaries by being something acquainted with those parts of the Country.

Mr. Weiser will write you more particularly as soon as he gets clear of Court Business.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient
humble Servant,
WM. PARSONS.

Lancaster, Feb'ry 9th, 1749.

Directed.

To Richard Peters, Esqr.,
Philadelphia.

Indorsed.

Wm. Parson's Lre, 9 Feb., 1749.

Thomas Cookson to Gov. H., 1749--50.

Honour'd Sir:

In Pursuance of your Directions, I have viewed the several Places spoke of as commodious Situations for the Town in the County of Cumberland, and also the several Passes thro' the Kittochtisnny and Tuscarrora mountains, for the Conveniency of the Traders to Allegheny, and for your Honour's clearer View I have laid the County down in a Plan and mark'd the several Waters & remarkable Settlements on them, and also the Tracts survey'd for the hono'ble Proprietors. I shall take the Liberty of making some Observations on the several different Places recommended, as the Inbitants of the different Parts of the County are generally partial from the Advantages that would arise from a County Town in their own neighbourhood, And first the Inhabitants about the River recommended the manor, being a considerable Body of the Proprietaries Land, well timbered, all which wou'd be render'd very valuable in case the Town shou'd be fix'd there; but the Body of the County cry loudly against that Situation as lying in a distant Corner of the County, wch will be a perpetual Inconvenience to the Inhabitants in attending publick Business, and a great charge of mileage to the respective officers employed in it. The next Situation is on Le Torts Spring, this place is convenient to the New Path to Alleghenny, now

mostly used, being at the Distance of four miles from the Gap in the Kittochtinny mountain. There is a fine Stream of Water and a Body of good Land on each side, from the Head down to Conedogwainet Creek, & the Lands on both Sides Conedogwainet are thick settled.

As these Lands are settled, if it shou'd be thought a proper Situation for the Town, the People possess'd of them are willing to sell their Improvements on reasonable Terms, or exchange them for other Lands of the hono'ble Proprietors. There is a Tract of about 2000 Acres of tolerable well timbered Land without Water, adjoining the Settlements on Le Torts Spring, which may be serviceable to accommodate the Town, and lies as mark'd in the Plan. If this Place should not be Central enough, the next Situation is the Bigg Spring, it rises a mile and a half to the North West of the Great Road, five miles from Dunnings, and seven from Shippensburgh, runs into Conedogwainet in about three miles good Land on each Side & on Conedogwainet, and a great Quantity of Land to the Southward which is tolerably well timbered, but no Water. The Hono'ble Proprietors has a Tract of 4000 A^s on the North Side Conedogwainet, opposite to this Spring, as mark'd in the Plan, there's a Gap in the mountain called McClure's Gap, convenient for bringing the Road from Alleghenny to this Place, & with the Purchase of two or three small Improvements the Proprietors might be accommodated with a sufficient Quantity of Land for that Purpose. As to Shippensburgh I have no occasion to say any Thing; the Lands being granted, and indeed if that was not the case, it appears in the Plan, that the Lands about it are unsettled for Want of Water, which must be a sufficient Objection.

The next Place propos'd was on Conegochage Creek, where the Road crosses it: the Lands to the Eastward of it are vacant, the Settlements being chiefly on the Sides of the Creek, the Situation is very good & Land enough vacant, only the Plantation on the Creek must be purchased. This Place was proposed as more convenient for the Indian Trade, & open'd a shorter & better Passage thro' the Mountains, on which Account I went round the Kittochtinny Hill by Parnell's Nab to the Gap in the Tuscarrora Hill, as lies the prick'd Line in the Plan, from Benjamin Chambers's, to the Great Cove. It is true, a tolerable Passage may be had, but it must be by the various Turnings as laid down. It was urg'd by the People of Conegochage that as Lord Fairfax was laying out a Town at Watkins's Ferry on Potowmack, & that the Indian Trade would be encourag'd there, & a Road cut to Alleghenny, unless the Town should be pretty high up the Valley, a good Deal of our Trade would go to that Town; your Honour will readily see the Force of that, I grant it as to the Country Trade, but as to the Indian Trade, I think it wou'd be no Advantage to our Philadelphia Merchants too have their Seat of Trade too near that of their neighbours, wch wou'd only give the People concern'd the Choice of two Markets,

and in which we cannot possibly be any Gainers, having already the Bulk of that Trade in our Hands, but may risque the loosing some Part of it. Upon the whole it appears to me to lye between the two Situations of Le Torts Spring and the Bigg Spring, the particulars of which I have before given. Your Honour may depend upon the Truth of the Plan.

Upon fixing the Spot some Directions will be necessary for a Plan of the Town, the Breadth of the Streets, the Lots to be reserved and those to be allotted for the publick Buildings, &c.

In the Execution of which or any other Service for the Hon'ble Proprietaries com'itted to me, I shall take great Pleasure.

I am

Hon^d S^r,

Y^r most obed^t

h'ble Servt,

THO. COOKSON.

To his Honour the Governor.

Lancaster, 1st March, 1749.

Indorsed.

Copy M^r. Cookson's Letter to the Governor about a proper Situation for the County Town of Cumberland, 1st March, 1749.

Conrad Weiser to Gov. Hamilton, 1750.

Lancaster, May the 4, 1750.

Sir:

I was favoured with yours of the 28 Aprill last, by M^r. John Laurence, with the inclosed packet of the Governor of New York to the Governor of Pensilvania, with the dispatches of that Great man Waraghiyagee to his Governor, and as I am desired to give my thoughts about it to his Honour, the Governer, I shall not trouble you with enlarging in this. You may Easely Call to mind what I allways said to you about the Administration in Indian affair of our neighbours; this is a prooff thereof. You tell me, Sir, that you was Surprized that there was not one Word in My letter relating to the new purchas. I hope you did not Expect that I Should Consult any thing about with the Son of Skickelimy, which would have ben wrong, but If it was because no answer arrived from the Six Nations to the Belt of Wampum the Governor gave them last Sumer, I am Equally Surprized, but am apt to think that the Council of the Six nations was but Summone^d this Spring, because I heard that most of the Indians that have been down with us last Sumer, Stay'd all Winter upon the heads of Susquehanna to Hunt, as it was Hunting time before they past Shomokin. I Belief it to be true, but I

Still Expect a Messenger from Onondago this Sumer with an answer to the said Belt.

As to what belongs to my Survey at Mokomay I am well pleased with your answer, and am obliged to you for your good will and affection.

Mr. Croghan Came home but last Monday night and rested but one day, and so Came down to Lancaster. Andrew Montour came down with him from Ohio to his house, (I mean to Mr. Croghan's house) and did Intent to go to Philadelphia Some time next week, and is Wanting my Company, but as I Expecting you up, I told Mr. Croghan to stop Andrew till you Came, which would be on the 15 of this Instant to John Harrises. In your last you desire me not to mention it to any Body that you was a Coming up, but, Sir, in yours of last week, on this Subject you did not say so, and therefore I made no particular privacy of it, allthough I don't know whether I told any Body of It till I Came to Lancaster, before I received your last as to what Concerns Mr. Croghan & Andrew Montour, you will receive Information of Mr. Croghan himself.

In Some of my last letters you was Informed of Reading affairs, and that we got Water at 52 or 3 feet. I hope you will Come that way, and be at my house on Saturday night, the 12 of this Instant, and I will make as Well Come as I Can, and make you Governor of my place as long as you will please to Stay with us.

I Can not help Mentioning to you, that I positively Belief that Warraghiyage Squanders a great deal of money in a year, which the public must pay, and I am Satisfied he has not wit Enough to know the Indians thoroughly, but I hope he does not fall short of Honesty. I have nothing to trouble you further with till I shall have the pleasure to see you. I remain,

Sir,
your well known
Servant,
CONRAD WEISER.

Directed.
To Richard Peters, Esquire, Secretary,
at Philadelphia.

Indorsed.
Mr. Weiser's Lre of 4 May, 1750.

Gov. Ogle to Gov. Hamilton, 1750.

May 20, 1750.

Sir:

As I was in the Country when I received the favour of your last Letter, I deferred answering it till the meeting of our Assembly that I might have the Sense of the Gentlemen of his Lordship's Counsel upon the Subject, & I find they are of opinion that all things considered, it is unnecessary to be at the Expense & trouble of appointing Commiss^rs to settle our Boundaries in any other manner than they are at present reputed. As their is so much reason to believe that Commiss^rs will very soon be appointed by his Majesty at the Request of the Governor of Virginia, to run some of the Lines in Question in a more authentick manner than we can pretend to do, besides in a Letter lately received from Ld Baltimore, he acquaints us that it is expected that the cause between him & the Prop^rs of Pensilvania will be finaly determined in a few Months.

As to the Inconveniencies that we may be obliged to suffer in the meantime, we are persuaded that fewer will offer in the parts you mention, as they are mostly uninhabited than in the other parts that are better peopled, as your people make no Scruples of coming into the Bounds of our Province in express violation of his Majesty's Order in Council, as in the Case of the Sub-Sherif of Chester County, in what I must take the Liberty to Say that you did not do us the Justice that this Govern^t thought we had all the Reason in the world to expect.

After all was it even So necessary to run the temporary Line to the utmost Extent of this Province, you must be Sensible that there are Some Difficulties that could not be easily got over without his Majesty's Interposition, as the greatest part of it, as it now stands, was run exparte by the Commiss^rs of Pensilvania without the Concurrence of those of Maryland, & all of it so contrary to the Agreement of our Proprietors, confirmed by his Majesty, that this Govern^t never thought themselves at Liberty to confirm what was done, tho' it has been acquiesced under, out of a Desire of peace, in hopes that affaires would have been finally Settled before this time.

As to what you mention of the 5 degrees of Longitude, I apprehend that the Gentlemen of Virginia have very different Sentiments upon the Subject, however as it is unnecessary to go further into that Affair at present, I shall only assure you that no Body is more desirous than myself to see all our Disputes ended in a friendly manner, or can be with more Sincerity & Respect.

Sir,

your most obedient

& humble Servant,

SAM. OGLE.

Indorsed.

Letter from Governor Ogle, dated 20th May, 1750. Received 5th July, 1750.

Read in Council 31st July, 1750.

To Lewis Evans,* respecting a Map, 1750.

Instructions, &c.

The End of your Journey is to gain Intelligenee of the Southern & Western Bounds of Pensylvania, where not yet settled, for performing which observe,

To repair to Conegoge, & from thence to the Kittatinni Mountains, at the End of the Temporary Line, observe there how far it is from the Potowmack, & if that Line was continued, whether it would touch Potomack or not.

From the End of the Temporary Line, make the best Passage you can amongst the Branches of Potowmack to the Head Fountain thereof, observing here and elsewhere the courses of the several Branches, the Ridges of the Mountains and the Quality of the Soil.

From Sasquehanna, Westward to the Head Fountain of Potomack, get all the Information possible of the Courses of the several Streams, Roads as now occupied, or as may be improved for any particular Advantage that you can get Intelligence of.

Minute down any Intelligence you can procure of Metals or Minerals in this or the neighbouring Colonies, that may in any manner affect the Proprietary Interest.

Be very careful to lose no opportunity for observing Latitude, and preserve the Minutes of your Observations.

Be very particular in your Maps about every Article directed to your Enquiry, making separate Draughts where Occasion requires a more particular Detail.

Minute the Settlements that may interfere with the Proprietary Claim, as Cresop's Store, &c.

If opportunity offers, procure a Copy of my Lord Fairfax's dividing Line with Virginia.

Get informed of the Stock and Scheme of the Virginia Co., trading to Ohio, and what Disadvantages they labour under, or advantages they now or hereafter may enjoy more than we from their Situation.

Make separate Descriptions of all the considerable Rivers, their

* This paper is indorsed "Copy Lewis Evans's proposal." He published a Map about 1754--5,—with a printed account of the Country—both of which are in the Philadelphia library. The information for it was probably thus obtained at public Expense, see p. 60. He issued proposals for a map, in 1748.

Quantity of Water, Falls, what Navigation they are capable of, and What Portages there are from them to other Rivers.

By all safe Conveyances send Accounts of your Proceedings.

Observe that Part which lies Southward of the Temporary Line, Northward of Lat. 39 Degrees, and Westward of the Meredian of Potowmack, the Quality of the Soil, &c.

The Parts about Allegeni River and its Branches, where you will judge the Province may extend to, be very particular in the Description of, as there may be occasion hereafter to limit it by a meridian Line, or by a Line of like Shape with the Eastern Bounds.

If possible, get Sight of Lake Erie, and of some Place, in this Province, convenient for establishing a Trade thereon. View the Materials and be fully informed of every Conveniency and Inconveniency attending it.

In all Parts beyond the Allegeni Mountains, Observe the Soil, Branches and Rivers, the Portages, Indian Towns, Places fit for building Forts and Trading Houses, Lines of Communication with other Parts of Pennsylvania, and where the most advantageous Settlement may be made upon Ground that the Indians may be prevailed upon to release.

Observe also, but with proper Caution, what Mines of Iron, Copper, Lead and Coal have been found; what Quarries of Millstones, Grindstones and Limestones lye convenient for any future Settlement, and what conveniency there may be for furnishing them with Salt & Sugar.

Extend your Maps as far as you can, from your own and others observations, minding to distinguish the Degrees of Credit that different Parts deserve.

When your Journey is completed, Reduce your Minutes into one connected Description, and deliver the same to us.

In your Return, choose that Rout which will give you the best opportunity of Intelligence of the Articles above directed to your Enquiry.

If it happens that you should not be able to go to Ohio by the Branches of the Potowmack and Mohungahalo, you must use your Discretions in contriving the best Rout you can for gaining the necessary intelligence, and if possible return that way.

In your Course of making the foregoing observations, make Excursions in adjacent Parts, as you shall judge necessary for preventing any Suspicion of your being employed by us.

For your better Intelligence; and for the safety of your Person, it will be necesary to prevent any Supicion of your Design, and for those Reasons we order that you employ any Trader you shall think proper to accompany you from one Indian Town to another, and to allow him what you can agree for, any Loss it would be to his Trade, in going out of his way.

Conditions.

That I have for my Time, Trouble and Report one hundred Guineas and my travelling Expences; besides my Outset of Provisions, Medicines, &c., and what I shall pay others for their Attendance, Assistance and Company.

That if I should be put under necessity to quit, or by Accident to loose any of my Instruments or my Horse, I or my Executors shall be paid for them, according to the Value set upon them before my Departure.

That if I should dye, be killed or detained a Prisoner in the Journey, my Executors or Attorneys shall be paid the above Sums as fully as if I had completed what I am employed in.

That if I should be taken Prisoner, I may use all reasonable means at the Proprietaries Charge to procure my Release, and if I should be sent to Canada, Louisiana or France, a reasonable allowance shall be made me for my Time and Trouble.

Indorsed.

Copy Lewis Evans's Proposals, 26 June, 1750.

Gov. Hamilton to Justices of Cumberland, 1750.

Gentlemen:

Mr. Peters has laid before me your Proceedings in the affair of the removal of the Trespassers in the unpurchased Lands, which I approve of, & after thanking you for the commendable zeal shewed by you in the execution of this necessary & serviceable work, I must recommend it to you to return all the Recognizances to this session, in order yt if the offenders do not appear their Default may be recorded, And then the Clerk must take care to send the forfeited Recognizances up to the Supreme Court, that Process may issue thereon.

I am thinking for the better prevention or Detection of those who shall presume after this to Settle in those parts, to get some proper persons to reside there at convenient distances, & to give them orders to inform the Magistrates ye moment they observe any body settling & doubt not your care to countenance & receive such Information & to do every thing in your power to keep off any Settlers there. I am wth great regard,

Gentlemen.

Indorsed.

Governor's Lre to Justices of Cumberland, 13 July, 1750.*

* See Col. Rec. Vol. V. p. 451.

Wm. Trent to R. Peters, 1750.

Lancaster, Sunday Noon,
July 22d, 1750.

Sir:

Just before I left Town you told me that you would send some Marriage & Traders' Lycenses. I'm affraid my Mother has forgot tell me if you have sent them, please to send to my Mother's for them.

John Potts is just arrived from Allegheny, who says some time before he come away two Men belonging to one James Young went from a place called Hochocken, about three Hundred Miles from the Logs Town to the Twigtwees Country, for Skins, they staying longer than was expected, their Master sent after them. They found the Horses & Saddles, all the Buckles cut from the Saddles, but the Men were gone, either killed or taken by the French or Indians, supposed to be done by the Ottaways. If this be true, as I believe it is, it would be a good opportunity (as the Indians must be at War with Some Body) to make a peace betwixt our Indians and the Carolina Indians & Set them both on the French Indians. I expect to Sleep at Harris's ferry to-night, I come this Morning from the White Horse. I am

your most obed humb. Servt,
WILLIAM TRENT.

Directed.
To Richard Peters, Esquire, In Philadelpha.

Indorsed.
Capt. Trent's Lre, 22d July, 1750.

Deposition of Benja. Swoope—Riot at Election in York County, 1750.

Benjn Shwoope, of York Town, Sw'n, on being Examin'd, Saith, That he was one of the Inspectors at the late Election; That the Election was begun & carried on by the Sheriff in a peaceable Manner, for the Space of abt an hour & ½, when a Riott happened, and the Sheriff went out, and having quieted it returned; That as the Examt Saw Several, 5 or 6 Men, one of whom belonged to Marsh Creek, with Clubs, in a riotous manner, this Examt supposed they were the Cause of this first Riott; That very soon after the Sheriff returned another Riott happen'd, and the Sheriff went out a Second time, telling this Examt he would endeavour to quell it, and this Examt desired him not to go least he should receive Some hurt; That this Examt observed a general fighting among the people, Several

were knock'd down, but at last the Dutch prevailed and came in a body to the Number of 150, as this Exam^t believes, about the House, where the Election had been carried on, when the Sheriff went out the 3^d time to quiet the Tumult, a Stop was put to the Election, and the Box wherein the Tickets were put was lock'd up by the Sheriff before he went out. Upon the Sheriff returning the Box was put on the Table, and the Exam^t asked the Sheriff if he would proceed in the Election, he answered he would proceed in ab^t half an hour, when the Tumult was a little over, but that at present he could not proceed, or to that Effect; that this Affirm^t, from the Window, told the people if they would be easy the Election would be opened by and by, but the people behaved in a tumultuous, disorderly manner, and threatened in the German Language that if their Tickets were not taken in immmediately they would break open the Door, the Sheriff all this time walking about the House under a great deal of Concern, that the Exam^t again pressed the Sheriff to go on with the Election, otherwise the people would break in, and they should be ruined, but the Sheriff replied that he would not open the Election that Night, and immediately turned from this Exam^t so that this Exam^t heard no other Words. Being asked whether the Sheriff added any thing further, this Exam^t answered he might for ought he knows, but the noise & Confusion was such that this Exam^t did not hear them, thereupon this Exam^t went and told the people in Dutch they might go home, for there would be no more Election that Night, the people answered they had as good a right to vote as those who had voted before, that they would Vote, and began to tear down the Windows, and attempted to break the Door, and behaved very disorderly, thereupon this Exam^t again endeavoured to persuade the Sheriff to go on with the Election, telling him if he did not there was danger of their being all killed, but he refused, but said he would take the Box into a private Room, and draw it, and the Affirm^t said he would not be present at the reading these Tickets, for the Tickets were not half taken in, this Exam^t endeavoured again to appease the people, and on returning from the Window he found the Sheriff was gone; the Sheriff being gone the Coroner got upon the Table and Sat on the Box, (which was lock'd) then It was proposed to go on with the Election, but it was Said the Sheriff should first be sent for, and it was intended that M^r. Minshall should go to the Sheriff, but before he went it was said the Sheriff was coming, and that the people without would not sufer him to come in, then M^r. Ryland said he would go for him himself, and M^r. Minshall Said he would go with him, and they went out and returned and said the Sheriff would not come, thereupon Nicholas Ryland Said he would go on with the Election, and a Box was provided and 3 more Judges were sworn, and 2 Clerks, that of the 7 Inspectors only John Hussey, Andrew Shriver & this Exam^t remained; then the Inspectors took in Tickets and the Election was carried on til the Dark of the Evening, and then it was proposed to

send for the Sheriff, that the Tickets might be read off in his presence, and this Exam[t] and John Smith Said they would go for the Sheriff, but tho' this Exam[t] went to the Sheriff he did not ask him to go to the reading of the Tickets, being tired went home, but was afterwards prevailed on to assist at the reading the Tickets, that when this Exam[t] went to the reading the Tickets the Boxes were in the possession of Sam[l] Underwood, John Day and Leonard Lyst, and none of the Inspectors were present; that the Sheriff's Box was lock'd, and the other Box was not lock'd, but that Nicholas Ryland took a Key out of his pockett with which Key Sam[l] Underwood opened the Sheriff's Box.

BENJ. SWOOPE.

Indorsed.

Examination of Benjamin Schwop, of York, taken in Council, Monday, ye 8th 8ber, 1750, touching the Tumults at the late York Election.*

Extract from the Proceedings of the Lower House of Assembly, N. Y., 1750.

Thursday Morning, May 12th, 1748.

The house taking into Consideration the Letter from the President of Pensilvania to the Governor, and other Papers relating to Indian Affairs, Resolved that Inasmuch as there has been lately an Expensive Treaty of Peace Settled with this Province and the Six Nations of Indians which this House cannot from the said Papers Apprehend the least Danger of their Violating or Infringing, therefore We cannot Agree to burthen the Inhabitants of this Province with any further Charge relating to the said Indians.

Copy, J. ROSS, Cl. Com.†

Returns of Iron Furnaces, &c., in Penns'a, 1750.

To the Hon[ble] James Hamilton, Esq[r]., Licuten. Governor of the Province of Pensilvania, & Counties of New Castle, Kent & Sussex, on Delaware.

I, Joseph Hart, High Sher. of ye County of Bucks, in the s[d] Province, in Obedience to Your Honour's Proclamation, dated the 16th Day of August last past, Do humbly Certifie & make known to Your Honour, that after diligent Inquiry by me, made throughout

* See Col. Rec. Vol. V., p. 468.
† See Col. Rec. Vol. V., p. 484. Oct. 10, 1750.

my Bailiwick, I find there are no Mills, or Engins for Slitting & Rolling of Iron, or Plating forge to Work with, a Tilt Hammer or Furnace for making of Steel, which were Erected within the County of Bucks Af^d, on the twenty-fourth day of June last, or at any time since to my knowledge, All which is humbly Submitted to Your Honour.

Given under my hand & seal at Newtown, in the County of Bucks, the Twentyeth day of September, in the Year of Our Lord Seventeen hundred and fifty, And in the Twenty-fourth Year of his Majesties Reign.

[L. S.] ℘ JOSEPH HART, Sher.

Indorsed.

Certificate of Joseph Hart, Sheriff of the County of Bucks, that there is no Slitting Mill, &c., within the said County.

—

To the honourable James Hamilton, Esquire, Lieutenant Governour of the Province of Pensilvania.

May it please the Governour:

As I am a Proprietor of a Furnace for making Steel, in Obedience to your Honour's Proclamation, I present the Condition thereof as follows:

It was built in the Year 1747, on a Lot the North West Corner of Walnut Street and the Eighth Street of Delaware Front in the City of Philadelphia, in the Province of Pensilvania. It had been workt at, and was in good Working Order on the 24th Day of June, One thousand seven hundred and fifty: There being then on the Spot Wood, Coal, Iron, the converting Ingredients and other Articles proper for making Steel.

The Property is absolutely in Me, as I am ready to produce my Deed for the Ground, & the Testimony of the Workmen who erected it for me.

STEPHEN PASCHALL.

Sep^r, 18, 1750.

Indorsed.

Stephen Paschall's Steel Furnace.

Lewis Evans, of the City of Philadelphia, Gent., on his Solemn Oath on the Holy Evangelists, doth declare, That about two or three

* These are entered on the Minutes of Council Decem'r 22, 1769. 19 years after being obtained it is thought best to introduce them here under their appropriate dates.

Years ago, He was in the Building, commonly called Stephen Paschal's Steel Furnace, near Walnut Street, in Philadelphia, Where he saw the Furnace with Fire therein, and a Man tending the Fire, with whom he had Some Discourse, As about how long the Batch or Fire had been in, and Some other Things about Steel, wherewith he Supposed the Furnace then charged. That tho' he had not then an Opportunity to look so much into the Furnace as to see the Iron, he made no Doubt but that they were then converting Iron into Steel, as he was previously informed by the s^d^ Paschal of his Design of Erecting a Steel Furnace, and did soon after enquire & was informed by him of his Success therein; which the Deponent was the more curious to know, as he thought it the first Attempt of the said Paschal to make Steel in the large Way. And the Deponent further declares, That from the said Time to the 24th of June, 1750, & until this Day, the said Building, with the Furnace therein, was standing as a Furnace for making Steel & not for any other Use. And further this Deponent saith not.

LEWIS EVANS.

Philad^a^, Sepr 20, 1750.

—

Jacob Shoemaker, of the City of Philadelphia, Spinning Wheel Maker, one of the People called Quakers, on his Solemn Affirmation doth declare, That in the Year 1747 he was well acquainted with Stephen Paschals Erecting a Steel Furnace near the North Side of Walnut Street, in the s^d^ City, and hath seen Fire burning therein, and blistered Iron drawn out thereof, proved and found to be Steel. And the said Affirmant further declares that the said Steel Works, Furnace or Oven has been, to his Knowledge Standing from that Time to this Day.

JACOB SHOEMAKER.

Philad^a^, Sepr 20, 1750.

—

Thomas Shoemaker, of the City of Philad^a^, Carpenter, one of the People called Quakers, On his solemn Affirmation doth declare, That in 1747 he erected the Building or House enclosing the Steel Furnace of Stephen Paschal, near the North West Corner of Walnut & the Eighth Street, in the said City; That he hath sev^l^ Times seen Fire burning therein, and a Proof Bar brought for Trial of the Steel made therein; and blistered Iron said to be Steel brought out thereof, And that to his Knowledge the said Furnace or Oven hath been standing for making Steel, & no other Use from that Time to this Day.

THOS. SHOEMAKER.

Philad^a^, Sepr 20, 1750.

Be it known that before me, Thomas Lawrence, Esqr, Mayor of the City of Philadelphia, came Lewis Evans, Jacob Shoemaker, & Thos. Shoemaker, Persons of good Credit & worthy of Belief, who were respectively sworn & affirmed to the above Affidavits. As Witness my Hand & Seal this 20th of Sep^{r}, 1750.

THOS. LAWRENCE, May^{r}.

To the Honourable the Governor of Pennsylvania:

May it Please the Governor,

On Receit of your Honour's Proclamation, relating to Slitting Mill, &c^{a}, I immediately publishd it, and made it my Business to enquire whether there were within this County any such mills as are there described, and on the strictest Enquiry, I do hereby certify to your Honour, that there is not within the County of Lancaster any Mill or Engine for Slitting or Rolling of Iron, or any Plating Forge to work with a Tilt Hammer, or Furnace for making Steel. Witness my Hand and Seal, this Third Day of September, in the Year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty.

ANDREW WORK, Sheriff. [L. S.]

Indorsed—"Andrew Work, Sheriff of Lancaster County, his Certificate of no Mill or Engine, &c^{a}., being therein."

In Obedience to the Comand of the Honble James Hamilton, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor & Comander in Chief of The Province of Pensylvania, &c., (By a Proclamation of the Sixteenth day of August last Past, Under the Governor's Hand & the Great Seal of the s^{d} Province, Requiring and Comanding The Sheriff of Every County in the s^{d} Province respectively on or before the Twenty-first day of Septemb^{r}, Instant, to appear before him at the City of Philad^{a}, and then and there, by Writings Under their Hands & Seals, to Certifie & make Known to him Every Mill or Engine for Sliting & Rolling of Iron, Every Plating Forge to work with a Tilt Hammer, And Every ffurnace for making of Steel, which were Erected Within their Respective Counties, on the Twenty-fourth day of June last Past, And the Place & Places where the same Were Erected, with the Name of their Reputed Proprietor or

Proprietors, And the Occupiers of them & Every of them, And Whether they or any of them Were Used on the Twenty-fourth day of June or not, as they & Each of them will answer the Contrary at their Perrill)—I do Humbly Certifie that William Branson, of the City of Philad^a, is Owner & Occupier of a ffurnace for the making of Steel, Erected within the City of Philad^a, which was in Use on or before the Twenty-fourth day of June Last Past, And that Stephen Paschall, of the said City, is Owner & Occupier of a ffurnace for the Making of Steel, Erected within the City of Philad^a, Afores^d, which was in Use on or before the Twenty-fourth day of June last, And that John Hall, of the County of Philad^a, is Owner of a Plating Forge to work with a Tilt Hammer, Erected in the Township of Biberry, in the County afores^d, which fforge is at Present much Impaired & Decayed, and has not been in Use for Twelve months Past.

The above Contains a true Account of all the Mills, Engines, fforges & ffurnaces within my Bailiwick. Witness my Hand & Seal in Philad^a, the Sixteenth day of September, in the Twenty-fourth Year of His Majesties Reign, Anno 1750.

RICH^D. SEWELL, Shff. [L. S.]
Philad^a County.

The nineteenth day of May.—Before me, William Parr, One of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the City and County of Philadelphia, came the within named Richard Sewell, and acknowledged the within Written Instrument or Declaration to be his Act and deed and desired the same may be recorded as such, according to Law. Witness my hand and Seal the day and Year first above-written.

WILL. PARR.

RECORDED, in the Office for recording of Deeds for the City and County of Philadelphia, in Book I., Vol. 5, page 460, &c.

[SEAL.] Certified under my hand and seal of Office, this 7th August, 1769. WILL. PARR, Rec^dr.

5—6. Record^d, Certificate, Seal, &c., &c.

Indorsed—Certificate of Richard Sewell, Sheriff of Philadelphia County, of all the Mills, Engines, &c^a., in the County aforesaid for Slitting & Rolling Iron, & Furnaces for Making Steel."

Recording, 5–6.

Ent^d in the Minutes of Council of the 22^d of December, 1769, in Council Book U.

To the Honourable James Hamilton, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pensilvania, and Counties of Newcastle, Kent and Sussex, on Delaware.

I, John Owen, Sheriff of the County of Chester, in the said Province, do Certify and make known That there is but one Mill or Engine for Slitting and rolling Iron within the County aforesaid, which is situate in Thornbury Township, and was Erected in the Year One thousand Seven Hundred and forty Six, by John Taylor, the present Proprietor thereof, who, with his Servants and workmen, has ever Since, untill the twenty-fourth day of June last, Used and Occupied the Same. And I do hereby further certify, that there is not any Plateing fforge to work with a Tilt Hammer, nor any ffurnace for making of Steel within the said County of Chester. In Witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and Seal, this eighteenth day of September, in the Year of our Lord one thousand Seven Hundred and fifty.

JOHN OWEN, Sheriff. [L. S.]

Indorsed—" Certificate of John Owen, Sheriff of Chester County of the Slitting Mills, &c^{a}., therein."

Gov. Ogle to Gov. Hamilton, 1750.

16th Octo^{r}, 1750.

Sir:

Your Favour of the 20th of last Month, with the Papers containing Copies of Messages from the Ohio Indians and their Allies, which I received a few Days ago, I laid this Day before the Gentlemen of the Council, Who are truly sensible of the Importance of the Friendship of these Indians; But as It is not practicable for Us by Our Authority only to raise Money for such Services, and as Our Assembly is not to meet until some time in the next Spring, and even then I am afraid very little can be expected from them, having pressed them before by Message upon the same Subject, but to no purpose, as You'l perceive by the inclosed Copy of their Answer to me; I can only express my Concern that it is not in my Power to contribute to so necessary an Affair otherwise than by assuring You I shall make Use of every Opportunity I can think may be favourable to promote his Majesty's service and Our Com-

mon Safety, and to keep up that good Correspondence with the Indians which is so necessary to Us all.

I am, S^r^,

Your most Obedient

and most humble Servant,

SAM: OGLE.*

Indorsed—"Governor Ogle's Letter, 16th 8ber, 1750."

PRES. LEE TO GOV'R HAMILTON, 1750.

Williamsburg, Oc^r^. 22, 1750.

Sir:

I this moment rec'd the favour of your letter of the 20th of last month, with the inclosed papers. I am very much of your opinion, and I will loose no occasion y^t^ offers to effect what you so justly think reasonable. I have the same advice from Gover^r^ Glen of South Carolina, with respect to the Southern Ind^ns^: he complains of the Northern Indians Setting their Indians to war with one another, and proposes to have a General Peace with all the Indians, North & South, the next Summer, at Fredericksburg. I had this in my tho'ts when I moved for the Kings present, to the Six Nations, and the Indians on the Ohio, and w^n^ I have an answer from the Council at Onontagoe, by M^r^. Weiser, and the time the Indians set for the meeting at Fredericksburg, I will desire your assistance at that meeting, in order to effect that good purpose. It will be my desire to make that present avail for the benefit of all the Colonys. M^r^. Glen Justly Observes, y^t^ the French are united in their Councils, which gives them advantages, that they cou'd not have if the Kings Governors on the Contin^t^ were to act on the Same principle, which I hope will be the case, from the good dispositions I Observe on the present Occasion. I was unwilling to miss this first opportunity to assure you of my zeal in this business, which I think is so much for His Majesty's Service, and to assure you that I am,

Sir,

Your most Obedient

humble Servant,

THOMAS LEE.†

Indorsed.

President Lee's Letter to Govr Hamilton, 22^d^ 8ber, 1750.

* See Col. Rec. Vol. V., p. 464-5. † See Col. Rec. Vol. V., p. 463-4.

Rich'd Peters to President of Virg'a, 1750.

Sir:

The Governor being obliged to go to his other Government the moment the Assembly finished here, he gave it me in charge, if the Virginia Post should come in his absence, to send you copies of the Messages & other Papers necessary to convey a just Information of the Situation of Indian affairs, which have taken a surprising Turn, that may give his Majesties Government abundance of Trouble.

My Hurry made me leave out a necessary Paper when I made up the last Packet, I mean the Minutes of the Council when the Governor laid before the Board the Twightwees Message, which will serve to show that though it was addressed to the Governor of Pennsylvania only, yet it was really designed for all his Majesties Governments.

My conference with Broken Kettle, an Ohio Indian, who came to me at Mr. Croghan's, on his way to Col. Cresop's, was approved by the Governor & Council, & is, I assure you, perfectly agreeable to the Sentiments of the Proprietaries & every thinking Man in ye Goverment, for tho' Traders of different Provinces will be jealous of one another, & be led by a mistaken notion of Trade, or by a Regard to private Interest, to do ill offices to each other, yet the larger the Trade is & ye more of the Colonies who reap ye Benefit of it, the more it stregthens the General Interest, and at this time there is more than ever required a Union of Hearts as well as Purses to defeat ye indefatigable Industry of the French.

I am with a very perfect Esteem & Regard,

Your Honour's

most obedient

humble Servant,

RICHARD PETERS.

Philadelphia,
30th October, 1750.

The Hono'ble President of Virginia.

Indorsed.

Copy Mr. Peter's Letter to the President of Virginia, 30th 8ber, 1750.

* See Col. Rec. Vol. V., p. 463--4.

Copy of Letter of Gov. to Board of Trade, 1751.

My Lords:

I would have done myself ye Honour to have answered your Lordships' Letter of the 19th Day of July last, something sooner, had I been able to have procured a Map of the Province accurate enough for your Purpose, which is of so much Import to his Majesties Rights. It is from a good Map only that anything can be said with precision & clearness on the several points mentioned in your Lordships' Letter, and I have waited all this time for one, the person on whom I depended to make it being at the time I received your Lordships' commands at a great distance in the uncultivated Parts of the Province. After this apology, by which your Lordships will see the true reason of my not answering with ye required Expedition, I shall furnish you with all the Knowledge I am master of or can procure by the best information in my power.

The Map* describes ye Province of Penna, wch is bounded on ye North by the Province of New York and a part of the Lake Ontario, on wch, a little to ye North, stands his Majesties Fort of Oswego, tho' this Lake by the French Accounts, is said to be within the Limits of Canada, and as such, used by them. On the West, this Province is bounded by a small part of the said Lake Ontario, the Streights of Niagara, Lake Erie, & ye country now possessed by the Six Nation Indians, Delawares, Mohickens and Shawonese, the greatest Part thereof is watered by the main Body and Branches of the great River Ohio, which runs into the Mississippi at six or seven hundred miles distance South West from this Western Boundary, and at it's mouth is said to be larger and deeper than the Mississippi at that place, and tho' all this Country be within his Majesties Province of Virginia, yet the French have given that part of it which lyes on Ohio the name of Belle Riviere, claiming all the Land from the Mouth of Ohio to its head, together with all the waters running into it, and in proof of their claims have buried Leaden Plates in the Earth, with pompous inscriptions, a copy of one of which, transmitted to me by the Govr of New York,† is herewith sent. On the South this Province is bounded by the Province of Virginia and Maryland, and on the East by the River Delaware, dividing it from the Provinces of New Jersey and New York. It contains three Degrees of Latitude & five Degrees of Longitude, as appears by King Charles the Second's Grant to the late William Penn, Esquire, (which is in the custody of the present Proprietaries or their Sollicitor ready to be produced to your Lordships' whenever you please to call for it) and by the Maps then in being, from whence, those Degrees were taken, they are to be measured at the South Boundary from the Town of Newcastle.

* See p. 47.

† See it in Colonial Records Vol. IV., p. 510.

All the Lands comprised within the Limits of this Province at the time of the first Settlement of New York, by the Dutch, which is generally agreed to be in 1609, did belong to the Five Nations, called by the French, Iroquois, their Cousins, the Delawares, and the Mohickens, And these Nations voluntarily and of their own deliberate choice being independent and free Nations, entered into the alliance first of the Dutch and afterwards of the English, and the New York Records of wch no doubt your Lordships on this occasion will receive exemplification, will shew that the Council of Onondago which with respect to the Union of these Indian Nations is in the nature of a Convention of the State's General repeatedly sued for the Protection of his Majesty, and executed in the most solemn manner, Treaties whereby they acknowledge themselves Brethren, Friends & Subjects of the King of England, & by Deeds as solemnly and deliberately executed, granted their Lands to the Dutch and English as the Country filled & the People wanted Room, and in particular the Deputies of the Five Nations authorised thereto by a Resolve of Council, in one of their Visits to one of the present Proprietors, executed an Engagement not to sell any Lands lying within the Province of Pennsylvania, to any other than to the Proprietors, their Heirs & Successors.

But as there can be no manner of doubt about the Southern or Eastern Parts of the Province, I shall be more particular in my Observations on the Western Parts. The Indians there are very numerous, consisting chiefly of Delawares, Mohickens and such of the Five Nation Indians as have removed from their native Countrys for the sake of hunting, together with the Shawenese and Owendals. The Shawenese in old times lived near the Spaniards and were always at war with them, & having from an uneasiness in their situation signified their desire to remove and live under the protection of the English & Five Nations were by Treaty received into this Province in 1701, & placed on Susquehanah & afterwards wth the Consent of the Government removed to the Waters of the Ohio, some within & others lower down than our Western Limits will extend. As to the Owendaels, their Original Settlement was about Fort De Troit, near the West End of Lake Erie, who, being ill used by the French, voluntarily left them & joined themselves to the Ohio Indians, in order to receive the Benefit of their Protection against the ill Usage of the French. What right the Shawenese in these circumstances may have to the Soil, must be left to be settled between themselves & the Five Nations, but from this time they were admitted to live in this Province. They have been his Majesties faithful allies, & behaved as such without any instance to the contrary, except that some of the Shawenese by the Solicitations and under the Conduct of one Peter Chartier, a freeholder of this Province, deserted to the French at the beginning of the last War, but the major part being sensible of their Error, returned, acknowledged their fault, & were

at the instance of the Ohio Indians pardond & taken again into Favour.

This, therefore, being the Fact that this Country is within the Limits of Virginia, & actually possessed by free & independent Nations of Indians, in the Alliance of the King of Great Britain, may it not be asked by what Title the French can justify their Claims. If it be said by a prior Discovery, Its distance from the Mississippi and the Antiquity of the Royal Grant of Virginia will confuse this pretention. If it be said by the Conquest of the Indians, this is false, in fact. There remains then only one thing more that can give a good Title; Namely, the voluntary cession of the Indians, but this ought not to be allowed, until proof thereof is made on the Part of France, & it is apprehended that no such Cession has ever been made by the Indians; on the contrary, whenever they incline to part with these Lands they are engaged to give the Preference to his Majesties Subjects, it must therefore appear plain to every one that the French claims to these countries are groundless; And yet notwithstanding this, the French have published not only their Right to the Soil of these Countrys, but the Right to an exclusive Trade with these Indians, and give out that they will use force in case the English Traders come into these Countrys to trade with the Natives, & in vindication of this exclusive Right refer to the Treaties subsisting between the crowns of England and France, as appears by three Letters of the same Tenor and Date address'd to me & delivered to the Traders of this Province who were in that Country in the Year 1749, by Monsieur Celeron, a French officer who had then the Command of a Party of French and Indians, sent expressly to chastise the Indians for suffering the English Traders to come amongst them. A copy of one of which is herewith sent. As this Doctrine is entirely new and against the express words of the 15th Article of the Treaty of Utrecht it will be easily confuted, but should it prevail, an End will effectually be put to all the Indian Trade, the value & consequence of which is too well known to be expatiated upon, since the French lay claim to all the Lands about the Lakes as well as those on the waters of the Ohio whose head Springs are in the Country of the Five Nations, and in the Heart of this Province.

As it has been advanced by some that the Apalaccian Mountains would make a good Boundary between the English and French Dominions in North America, care has been taken to lay their Course and Situation in the Map as near the truth as possible. Your Lordships will please to observe the distance between them & the West Boundary of this Province, and to take these further remarks into your consideration, That where these mountains cross this Province they are three or four hundred miles from any part of the Mississippi, and more than seven hundred from it where the Ohio falls into it; That in Virginia People are settled on the West Side of them, & in this Province to the very foot of them; That there is a

very large and fine country, bigger than Pennsylvania, between them & the Mississippi, inhabited by the Five Nation Indians, Mohickons, Delawares, and Shawonese, all free & independent Nations & our good Allies; That these Mountains are likewise at a considerable distance from Lake Erie, which is here mentioned to obviate any Arguments the Ffrench may Use, as if this Country was necessary for them to be possessed of, in order to pass & repass from Louisiana to Canada; and when all these matters come to be duly considered, your Lordships will see plainly that to make these Mountains the Boundary between his Majesty & the French woud be extremely injurious to his Majesties Rights, as thereby a great Part of the Provinces of New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia woud be cut off from his Majesties Dominions, nor can this, tho' an heavy Loss, be compared to the unsafe Condition which the other Parts of them woud be exposed to by the near neighbourhood of the French who woud have it in their Power to harass & distress them at pleasure.

The Indian Interpreter, who lived some years among the Five Nations, and has been frequently employd in Messages to the Council at Onondago, & passed the Apalaccian Mountains on his way to Ohio, assures me that the Situation of these Hills, where they cross this Province, is to the best of his Judgment well and truly laid down in the Map, the same he says of the North & West Parts of the Province & of the principal Indian Towns on the Waters of the Ohio & between them & Lake Erie.

The Eastern and Southern Parts & the Courses of the River Delaware are in a great measure laid down from actual Surveys.

Before I conclude, it will be necessary to inform your Lordships that Monsieur Celeron, the Writer of the French Letter, has since his Ohio Expedition been preferred to the Command of the Garrison at Fort De Troit, situate on the Straights, between Lake Erie and Lake Hurons, & we are assured by repeated Intelligences that he has collected an armed Force, with which he intends in the Spring to march to Ohio against the Indians and our Traders, and to make good the French King's exorbitant Pretensions to the Property of the Soil and an exclusive Trade; he has already declared that he will build two Forts at or near the Place, marked in the map, Logs Town, within this Province, it is, therefore, humbly submitted, whether this should not be guarded against in the most effectual manner, at the Settlement of the Boundary between his Majesty & ye French King in the Treaty that we hear is now in agitation.

Indorsed—" Rough Draught of Lre. to Lords of Trade, 4th Febry, 1750."

Deposition of Samuel Dickinson, 1751.

Kent County upon Delaware, ss.

Samuel Dickinson, of the County of Kent upon Delaware, Esquire, Aged Sixty-one Years and upwards, being one of the people called Quakers, on his Solemn Affirmation, declareth and saith, That he, this Affirmant, was born in Talbott County, in the Province of Maryland, upon a River issuing out of the Bay of Chesapeak called Great Choptank River, where He this Affirmant lived till about eleven Years ago; That he this Affirmant, when he was a Young Man, had frequent occation to go by Water up and down the said Bay of Chesapeak, and was very well acquainted with the Eastern Side of the said Bay, and the Waters, Creeks, and Rivers issuing out of the same, and more especially with the Rivers called Great Choptank and Little Choptank, and a Creek called Slaughter's Creek, and the several Points or headlands in and near the same. This Affirmant further saith that the most Southerly point of Sharp's Island and a point called Hill's point were always called and deemed to Form the Mouth of the Great Choptank River, and that the said Hill's point and the Northern point of James's Island formed the Mouth of the Little Choptank River, and that the Waters within, or to the Eastward of the said Points, were never to this Affirmant's Knowledge or Belief called a Part of Chesapeak Bay; That in or about the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Nine, he this Affirmant attempted to go thro' Slaughter's Creek, in a Small Vessel or Shallop, which drew about four Foot Water, and that he this Affirmant, after waiting several Days, was Obliged to put back for want of Sufficient Debth of Water to carry his small Vessel thro', and further saith not.

SAMUEL DICKINSON.

Kent County on Delaware, ss.

To all Persons To whom these Presents may come, I, Nicholas Ridgely, Esquire, one of his Majesties Supreme Judges for the Goverument of the Counties of New Castle, Kent, and Sussex on Delaware, Send, Greeting, Know Ye, That the above Affirmation was taken before me, the Twenty Second Day of July, in the Year of Lord One thousand Seven Hundred and fifty One. In Testimony whereof, I have hereunto sett my hand and affixed the Publick Seal of Kent County aforesaid.

[SEAL.] NICHOLAS RIDGELY.

Report to Privy Council on Gov's. Letter, 1751.

May it Please Your Excellency,

In Obedience to Your Excellency's Order in Council the 30th September last, referring to a Committee A Letter then Communicated to the Council By your Excellency, from Governour Hamilton of the 13th Ultimo, respecting the Boundaries of the Province of Pensilvania. The Committee have duely weighed and considered the same, And upon Examining the Record of the Letters Patent granted by King Charles the Second, in the thirty-third Year of his Reign, to William Penn, Esqr., for the Province of Pensilvania, do find the Lands therein granted, to be bounded on the North by the beginning of the three and fortieth Degree of Northern Latitude. And therefore the Committee are humbly of Opinion Your Excellency may grant any Lands to the Northward of that Boundary; Otherwise it may be a hindrance to the Settlement of this Province, and Prejudicial to His Majesty's Revenue Arising from the Quit Rents.

By Order of the Committee,

EDWARD HOLLAND, Chairman.

October 9th, 1751.

Copy Examd By Geo. Banyar, D. Secry.

Indorsed—"Report of Council of New York, to whom Govr Clinton referred the Contents of Govr Hamilton's Lre. of the 13th 7ber, 1751."

Gov. Clinton's answer to Gov. Hamilton, 1751.

Sir,

I have communicated your Favour of 13th of last Month, to the Gentlemen of His Majesty's Council, as you will perceive by the enclosed Copy of a minute of that Board, by which you will observe that it is their Opinions that the Northern Boundary of your Colony is fixed to the beginning of the 43d Degree of Latitude, and no ways depending on your Southern Boundary, or on any Agreement entered into between the Proprietories of Pennsylvania, and Lord Baltimore.

It is thought, that the Facts must have been misrepresented, that could induce your Honour to fix the beginning of the 43d Degree near Albany; and I assure you Sr, that I shall take all particular

care that no Lands may be located to the Southward of the Northern Boundaries of Pennsylvania. I am with very great Respect,

Your Honours
most Obedient
and most Humble Servant,
G. CLINTON.

Fort George in New,
York, 13 October 1751.

The Honourable
James Hamilton, Esq.

Indorsed—Governor Clinton's answer to Governor Hamilton's Letter of the 13 7ber, 1751, inclosing the Councils Report Relating to the Boundaries of the Province at Pennsylvania.

Copy Gov. Hamilton's Letter to Samuel Blunston, 1751.

Sir,

The Prop^r this morning was pleased to show me your Letter to him of the 5th instant, which was the first time I came to know what the President and Council had done or had not done upon the receipt of that Copy of the King's Order in Council, sent hither from Maryland, Except that they had wrote to Maryland, but what in particular I cannot say further than that a due Regard shall be paid here to his Majesty's order. But the Occasion of Saying any thing to you at present, is briefly this: It seems at the time the King's Order in Council was sent up here, there came with it a petition for Cressap and his accomplices to Sign and to be presented to the President, which was done accordingly, and delivered by the Messenger from Maryland to Our President, who being engaged in business it seems at that time, laid the petition by, and spoke not of them for some days. When they came to be seen, and it being observed, the Petitioners justified their Innocency, Complained of the great cruelty used in burning the house, &c., & desired to be discharged, it was wished by some that the petition had been seen in time, that a proper application of the same kind might have been drawn, and sent down to Mich. Alkeefe to sign, and get presented to the Govr of Maryland, before any answer had been given to those here, for there was no room to doubt but Govr Ogle would send home Copys of their Petition, with Our resolution upon that occasion, which we presume would answer two purposes, first, it would show the Confidence the Prisoners had of their own Innocency, as well as set forth the barbarity with which they had been used, and then it might serve for ffresh matter of Complaint, to detain them in prison so long without a tryall, and then not discharging them upon that Petition, be

Construed as a Contempt or Disregard of His Majesty's Order, altho' nothing of that nature is expressed in it. It was therefore thought by some here, that a petition from Atkinson to Govr Ogle, would just have been of the same use to us, but this it seems, was either not approved of, &c^r The Prop^rs however, is advised, and thinks it of Consequence to have an application made even at this time ffrom Atkinson. But as it is now so late for that Petition to take its rise from this place, and that it will justly be looked upon as ridiculous to be so slow in Our Resolution, it is supposed it may come better from Lancaster, by some bodys writing to Atkinson, with a Messenger to be sent from your parts directly, and I think your Letter to him may be something like the rough draught wch accompanys, but, however, it may be commended so as to make the application to the Govr appear to take its rise purely from something that has happened among you, the p'son who goes, should be of some understanding, who can frame his story agreeable to the Contents of the Letter to Atkinson, and who has discretion to deliver the Petition to Govr Ogle, and report the answer he received; however, he must upon his return, bring a true Copy of the Petition with him, that he may prove he delivered a Duplicate of that to the Govr of Maryland, he must be furnished with two Copys of the Petition before he goes. Let Atkinson sign both, and let the Messenger Deliver one to the Govr, and bring the other back, Noting upon the part he keeps, the time and place, when and where he delivered it. This seems to be the only way left for doing at this time, what the Prop^r thought should have been done in a different manner at first.

Indorsed—Rough Draught of Andrew Hamilton's Letter to Sam. Blunston, relating to a Petition to be presented the Governor of Maryland, by Michael Atkinson, Prisoner at Annapolis.

Certificate in favor of Rev. Mr. Schlatter.

By the Hon'ble J. H. Esq., Governor, &c., 1751.

To all to whom these presents shall come or may concern,

Greeting,

I do hereby certify y^t ye Bearer hereof, ye Reverend M^r. Michael Slatter, hath for some Years last past, resided in quality of ye Minister of ye High Dutch Reformed Calvinist Church, wth in this City, and during y^t time hath not only exercis'd & performed ye Dutys of his s^d Office wth a suitable Zeal, Diligence and Sobriety, but hath in all other respects, demeaned himself in ye good and pious manner becoming one of his Function, so far as I know or have been informed. And he having now represented to me y^t he is obliged to

take a Voyage from hence to London, & from thence to Holland and Switzerland, in order to appear before ye Most Reverend ye Synods or other Ecclesiastical Bodys of South and North Holland, on behalf of ye Congregations of ye several Churches of that Perswasion within this Province, and desiring my Licence or Passport for his safe Conduct in his s^d Voyage, I do, by these presents, not only Grant unto the s^d Mich^l Slatter my Permission to pass and repass unmolested wth in ye Limits of my s^d Government, but also desire all Governors, Magistrates & Officers in such Foreign States & Dominions as are in Amity wth ye Crown of G^t Britain, thro' whose Territories ye s^d Mich. Slattor shall have occasion to travel, to Grant him their safe Conduct & Protection, wth liberty to pass & repass wth his proper Effects, he behaving as becometh.

In Testimony whereof, I have hereto set my Hand & caused ye Lesser Seal of ye s^d Prov. to be hereto affixed at Phila., ye 29th day of January, Anno Domini, 1750–51.

Indorsed—Passport for the Rev^d M^r. Slatter.

New Style, 1752.

Up to this period the dates have been "old stile," which it will be seen by the following act, terminated on the 31st December, 1751. As much confusion arises from not attending to this circumstance, the law itself effecting the change, is inserted.

"An Act to prevent Disputes about the Dates of Conveyances, and other Instruments and Writings."

WHEREAS, by an Act of Parliament made in the Twenty-fourth Year of the present Reign, entituled *An Act for regulating the Commencement of the Year, and for correcting the Calendar now in Use*, it is enacted, That in and throughout all his Majesty's Dominions, and Countries in *Europe*, *Asia*, *Africa* and *America*, belonging or subject to the Crown of *Great Britain*, the Supputation, according to which the Year of our Lord beginneth on the Twenty-fifth day of *March*, should not be made use of from and after the last Day of *December*, 1751; and that the first Day of *January* next following the said last day of *December*, should be reckoned, taken, deemed, and accounted, and to be the first Day of the Year of our Lord, 1752; and so on, from Time to Time, the first Day of *January* in every Year, which should happen in Time to come, should be reckoned, taken, deemed and accounted, to be the first Day of the Year; and that each new Year should accordingly commence and begin to be reckoned from the first Day of every such Month of *January*, next preceding the Twenty-fifth Day of *March*, on which

such Year would according to the Supputation aforesaid, have begun or commenced; and that all Acts, Deeds, Writings, Notes and other Instruments, of what Nature or Kind soever, which should be made, executed or signed, upon or after the said first Day of *January*, 1752, should bear Date according to the New Method of Supputation. AND WHEREAS, for the Ease of the Inhabitants of this Province, who scrupled to call the Names of the Months as they were commonly called, but the Month which others called *March*, they called the *First Month*, and so of the rest of the Months of the Year, according to the old Supputation of the Year, beginning on the Twenty-fifth Day of the Month call'd *March*, then generally received throughout the King's Dominions, an Act of the General Assembly of this Province, was pass'd in the Ninth Year of the late Queen ANNE, entitled, *An Act to prevent Disputes which may hereafter arise about the Dates of Conveyances, and other instruments and Writings;* whereby it was enacted, that all Instruments and Writings whatsoever, wherein the Names of the Months were called the *First*, *Second*, *Third* and *Fourth*, instead of *March*, *April*, *May* and *June*, and so of the rest, should be judged and taken as valid and effectual in Law, as if the Months in such Writings had been set down and expressed by the usual Names.

AND forasmuch as many of the sober Inhabitants of this Province are still conscientiously scrupulous of calling the Names of the Months as they are usually called, yet hold themselves in Duty bound to comply with the Act of Parliament hereinbefore recited: THEREFORE, for preventing Disputes and Controversies, concerning the Dates of such Instruments and Writings, since the passing of the Act of Parliament aforesaid; BE IT ENACTED by the Honourable *JAMES HAMILTON*, Esq., Lieutenant-Governor, under the Honourable THOMAS PENN, and RICHARD PENN, Esquires, true and absolute Proprietaries of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, and Counties of *Newcastle*, *Kent* and *Sussex*, upon *Delaware*, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Representatives of the Freemen of the said Province, in General Assembly met, and by the Authority of the same, That all Deeds, Conveyances, Mortgages, Letters of Attorney, or Powers of Agency, Commissions, Bonds, Bills, Charter Parties, Leases, Releases, Contracts, Articles, Receipts, and all other Instruments and Writings whatsoever, since the first Day of the Month called *January* last; wherein the Names of the Months are called *First*, *Second*, *Third* and *Fourth*, instead of *January*, *February*, *March*, *April*, and so of the rest, accounting always the Month called *January*, to be the first Month of the Year, shall, and are hereby enacted and declared, to be as good and available, and may be pleaded, and shall be deemed, adjudged and taken, in all Courts of Judicature, and elsewhere, within this Province, to be as valid and effectual in Law to all Intents, Constructions and Purposes, as if the Months in such Writings had been set

down and expressed by their usual Names, any Law, Custom, or Usage, to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, by the Authority aforesaid, That the Act of Assembly aforesaid, intituled, *An Act to prevent Disputes which may hereafter arise about the Dates of Conveyance, and other Instruments and Writings,* passed in the Ninth Year of the late Queen ANNE, and every Clause, Part and Paragraph thereof, shall be, and is hereby repealed and made void.

Passed *March* 11*th*, 1752. Recorded A. Vol. 3, p. 299.

CONFIRMED *by the Lords Justices in Council,* May 10th, 1753.

Examination of Martin KitzMiller, 1752.

Examination of Martin KitzMiller, of Manheim Township, in York County, in the Province of Pennsylvania, Miller, taken at the City of Philadelphia, before William Allen, Esquire, Chief Justice of the said Province, the fourth Day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & fifty-two.

The Examinant, Martin Kitz Miller, upon his Oath on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God, solemnly deposeth and saith, that he the said Examinant lives on a Tract of Land at Conawaga, in Manheim Township aforesaid, in York County aforesaid, which was granted to him by Warrant from the Honourable the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania, situate about four Miles to the Northward of the Temporary Line run by Virtue of His Majesty's Order, between the Provinces of Maryland and Pennsylvania, and near to some Land called Diggs's Choice, lying in Heidelberg Township, in the County aforesaid, Which Mr. John Diggs has a patent for from the Lord Proprietor of Maryland.

That he the said Examinant can justly say, that his the said Examinant Land is not within the said Mr. John Diggs's Tract aforesaid, for, that upon Mr. Diggs's refusing to shew his Line, (tho' frequently requested by this Examinant and others so to do,) Mr. Thomas Battey, a Magistrate in Prince Georges County, in Maryland, was employed by the Examinant & some Others to run Mr. Diggs's Courses according to the Courses laid down in the Certificate of Mr. Diggs's Survey, A Copy of which Survey they had obtained from the Land Office in Maryland, & found that the Examinant's Land, or any part of it, was not within the said Mr. John Diggs's Tract. That he the said Examinant has lived there twelve years, and during that Time has constantly paid his Taxes in Pennsylvania. That on Wednesday, the twenty-sixth Day of February last past, Anthony

* From Peter Miller's Edition, published in Philada., 1762, Vol. II. p. 40.

Worley, of Heidelberg Township aforesaid, Cordwainer, and [very soon after him] a younger Son of the aforesaid, Mr. John Diggs (whose name he believes is Edward Diggs) came to the Examinant's Smith Shop, each of them having a Rifle Gun with him, and Worley, desiring the Examinant's eldest Son, Jacob Kitz Miller, to make him a Screw to draw a Charge out of his Gun with, the said Jacob told him he could not make one immediately, but would do it in a day or two. That while they were in the Smith's Shop the Examinant came there, & heard Anthony Worley say to young Mr. Diggs, let us now try which of our Guns will shoot best; and the Examinant finding them inclineable to try, told them he would shew them the Tree they usually shot at when they tryd Guns, which he did, and leaving them together, went to his Mill. That he the said Examinant soon after heard one Gun discharg'd, upon which a Man, whom he supposes to be the Sheriff or under Sheriff of Baltimore County, in Maryland, (his Name the Examinant knows not) came up to the Examinant's House. That he believes the discharge of the Gun was a Signal or Notice to the said Officer that the Examinant was at home. That upon the said Officer's coming up to the House, the second Gun was discharged as a Signal, the Examinant verily believes for others to come up. For immediately two persons (one of whom was Mr. Dudley Diggs, another Son of the aforementioned Mr. John Diggs, the other a stranger to the Examinant,) came up to the Examinant's House, and the Sheriff and two last mentioned Persons alighting from their Horses went with Worley and Young Mr. Diggs into the Smith's Shop, the Examinant being all the time, after having shewn the Tree aforesaid, in his Mill. That while they were in the Shop, one Jacob Sheely, a Neighbour to the Examinant, came to the Mill (which is very near to the Smith's Shop) with three Horse Loads of Wheat, which the Examinant coming out to receive the said Officer, with three of the Persons before mentioned, came up to the Examinant, and the Officer Shaking Hands with the Examinant, kept fast hold of the Examinant, and told him he arrested him at the Suit of Mr. John Diggs, at which Time the younger Mr. Diggs plac'd himself by the Smith's Shop, and presented and pointed his Gun towards the Examinant. That the Examinant thereupon strove hard to disengage himself from the Officer and to keep him between him and the said younger Mr. Diggs, the Examinant being greatly apprehensive that he should be shot by the said Mr. Diggs, who constantly moved his Gun to and fro as the Examinant moved, but was as he verily believes prevented from shooting for fear of killing the Officer. That during this struggle between the Officer & the Examinant, the Examinant called for his Sons to help him to get free from the Officer who he appprehended had no Authority to take him, as he told him he came from Patapsco, in Maryland, and the Examinant knew he was not an Officer in York County. That the Examinant's two younger Sons being in a Field near the House, came up, and some of the Officer's

Company beat and bruised them both very much about their Heads with their Guns and Clubs which they had in their Hands. That thereupon his aforesaid Son, Jacob Kitz Miller, having a Rifle Gun in the Shop, (charged some Time before with Duck Shot) came out of the Shop with it, Whereupon two of the Officer's Company seized the said Jacob and Strove to take his Gun from him. That during this Affray the Examinant's Wife came out of the House, and some of the Officer's Company pulled her Cap off and tore a great quantity of Hair from her Head, and beat her so that her Arms were very much bruised. That in this Confusion, and while the Struggle continued between the two Persons and Jacob, the said Gun in Jacob's Hand was discharged, and shot the aforesaid Mr. Dudley Diggs, who stood near the muzzle of the said Gun, in the Belly. That at the Time of the Gun's going Off, those two Persons who were Strugling with the Examinant's Son Jacob, had fast hold of the Gun in Jacob's Hand striving to wrest it from him. And the said Jacob solemnly declared to the Examinant that he did not design to discharge the Gun, and does not Remember that he touched the Tricker at that Time. That upon this unfortunate Event, the Sheriff or Officer aforesaid let the Examinant go, and the other Persons let go his Son, and after putting the Body of the said Mr. Dudley Diggs upon some Straw, they all went off immediately, and the Examinant likewise went away to York Town, and that his Son soon after followed him and told him that the said Mr. Dudley Diggs lived two or three Hours after he received his Wound, and then Dyed. That after this Examinant was gone, Mr. Diggs called to his Son to come to him, and told him that he forgave him what had happen'd to him by his Means, (as this Examinant has been informed by his said Son). That after the Examinant and his Son came to York, the Son surrendered himself a Prisoner in the Publick Goal, And that the Examinant came to this City (where he arrived on the Evening of the first Day of this Instant) to give an Account of this unhappy Affair to the Chief Justice of this Province.

his
MARTIN ⋈ KITZ MILLER.
mark.

Taken & Sworn, at Philada., the 4th Day of March, Anno Domini, 1752, Before me,

WILL: ALLEN.

A true Copy examined carefully by

JAMES READ, Clerk Court.*

* See Col. Rec. Vol. V., p. 582–597.

Nicholas Scull to R. Peters, 1752.

Philad^a., March 17th, 1752.

S^r.

I have perused M^r. Jack's Letter, and think his method of finding the Meridian, the Tangent Line, and running the Circumference of the Circle, to be good as well as plain and easie to be conceived; his Opinion also of the insufficiency of the Needle in Running of long lines, is doubtless very Just.

But I must own my self at a loss to understand him where he says that there is nothing at all in the Objection that a line run with Stakes will be an Arch of a great Circle, and not a parallel of Latitude or East and West Line. For my own part, I must confess that I always understood an East and West line and a Parallel of Latitude to mean the same thing, and I conceive nothing is more evident than that a great Circle cannot be a parallel of Latitude; If so, then a line run with stakes cannot be an East and West line; however, as I am convinced by M^r. Jack's Letter that he is far Superior to me in Mathematical Learning, I shall at present submit to his better Judgment, but least some People on this side the Water should think him mistaken in this Point, I think it my duty to advise the having it settled at home before the lines between the Provinces are begun.

I am, Y^r assured Friend,

NICHO. SCULL.

To Richard Peters, Esqr.

N. B. I forgot to Observe above that we have not such an Instrument as M^r. Jack mentions.

John Digges to C. J. Allen, 1752.

Hon^rd Sir:

The very bad roads, with my very great affliction and Infirmity, renders me incapable to wait on yor. Hon^r in person upon the Melancholy occasion of my Son's Death.

The many Testimonies herewith sent, together with the Examinations you will be pleased to make, will clearly shew the willful murder committed; and that this black deed was premeditated; I have now certain Information that Martin Kitzmiller had, by several speeches, declared his resolution to destroy me or some of my family this way.

The Inhuman and unchristian behaviour, not only at the time when my poor Son rec'd his Death wound, but for some Considerable time after, when the said Kitzmiller, his Sons, and others in his Family, with their Guns and Clubs, hinder'd my Dying Son's Bro-

ther, and some others, from giving him the least assistance or relief, leaves me no room to doubt of his wicked intentions to fulfil the resolution he had been some time Spiriting himself and Family into to Commit the most unheard of Cruelty, I believe, ever Transacted by any human Christian People. As soon as I could overcome the distracted Sallies of Human Nature, and my very great grief, I apply'd to Justice Wattson, the nearest Magistrate, for Warrants to apprehend the Criminals. Altho' my friends were so good on my behalf, for several days in going forwards & backwards from the Magistrate to the Constable's, Martin Kitzmiller, his Wife, two Sons, vizt, John Leonard & Jno Kitzmiller, together with a certain John Cyphers, for all whom I had obtained Warrants against, were admitted & still Continue at large; and what adds greatly to my Consternation is, that the said Cyphers sho'd be called upon to give evidence on so foul a deed, notwithstanding Justice Watson's Warrant was served upon him.

About six years past the Governour of Maryland Cited me to Annopolis to answer some Complaints against my Claims here, held under Lord Baltemore, when amongst other matters, I prov'd to Content, by unquestionable evidences, my Original Survey, former Settlement and possession, of the very Spot where my poor Son lost his life, & where Martin Kitzmiller lived & forceably detained from me, to my very great damage, notwithstanding my right thereof was Secur'd to me by the Prop^{rs} Agreem^{t} and his Majestie's Royal Order; ever since, at times, precepts have been issued from the Governm^{t} of Maryl^{d} to apprehend the said Kitzmiller, to bring him to trial, whereby he might be convicted; he not only violated the Prop^{rs} Agreement but his Majesties Royal Order of Council. I doubt not but a mutual Conference will be had between Governour Hamilton and the Governour of Maryl^{d} on this occasion, and that Right orders will be taken and directed in this most Melancholy affair. Conformable to to the Prop^{rs} Agreement and his Majesties Royal order thereupon, the se'ral Copys of Depositions, with other matters brought to light & now sent, are h'mbly submitted to yor honour's observation. Upon the whole, I doubt not but it will appear clear that murder is committed, and that the Criminals, acting, or accessory, ought to be secured. The Fame of yor Hon^{rs} Candor and Integrity leaves me no room to doubt but that the strictest justice will be administered, and that you'l be pleased to pardon this from Honrd Sir,

Yo^{r} very afflicted
and obed^{t} serv^{d},
JOHN DIGGES.

March 22d, 1752, Little Conewago,
York County.

Directed.
To the Hon'ble William Allen, Esq.,
Chief Justice of the Province of Pennsylvania.

* See Col. Rec. Vol. V. pp. 582—597.

Council of Proprietors of New Jersey, 1752.

At a Council of Proprietors of the Eastern Division of New Jersey, held at Perth Amboy, March 25th, 1752.

Present:

The President,	Mr. Nevill,
Mr. Alexander,	Mr. John Burnet,
Mr. Peters,	Mr. Ashfield,
Dr. Johnston,	Mr. Parker.

Mr. Peters Informed the Board, that Mr. Coxe had, at his Request, Commenc'd an Action of Trespass at the Suit of Thomas and Richard Penn, Esq^{rs}, Proprietors of Pensilvania, against one Robert Sandford, who was Settled on a Tract of 2500 Acres of Land belonging to said Penns, in Morris County, in which Action s^{d} Sandford Gives out he will stand trial upon a pretended purchase, Call'd the Aquach Indian Purchase, or perhaps the New Brittain Purchase: That this Sandford is Confederated with several others at Newark and other places, and has actually told Mess^{rt} Penns' Agent, that they are come to a Resolution to try the Validity of their Title, and requiring of the plaintiffs' to bring the Action to a Tryal: That as their Indian purchases include Large Tracts of Land belonging to other Proprietors, both in East and West Jersey, (tho' the Lands of Messrs Penns are taken up by a West Jersey Right,) Mr. Peters says he is not willing to Try this Action unless the Council of Proprietors of both Divisions shall Contribute to the Expense, and Approve every Step to be taken in the prosecution of this, or an Ejectment, if that should be thought a better Mode of proceeding, and therefore desires the Board will be pleased to take this Matter into their serious Consideration and Give him their Answer.

—

At a Council of Proprietors, &c, held at Perth Amboy, March 26, 1752.

Present:

The President,	Mr. John Burnet.
Mr. Alexander,	Mr. William Burnet,
Mr. Peters,	Mr. Parker,
Dr. Johnston,	Mr. Stevens.
Mr. Nevill,	

This Board haveing maturely Considered the Proposition made Yesterday by Mr. Peters, are of Opinion that the pretence to hold Lands by Indian purchase equally Concerns the Proprietors of both Divisions; that the Charges of such Suits as shall be necessary ought to be at the equal Charge of the Proprietors of both Divisions; and this Board, for the Proprietors of the Eastern Division, cheerfully

and Unanimously Agree to bear one-half of the Charges, and to Give our best personal Services besides in the Suit brought or propos'd to be brought in the Name of Proprietorys Penns. This Board also think it most Effectual to have the Tryal in Ejectment, that Messrs Penns may have the Effect to Recover the Possession. That the Brief of Title of the Lessor of the Plaintiffs, should be made as soon as possible, and the best possible Enquiry into what the Defend^t is to Sett up for his Defense and a Copy Laid before this Board. That this Board are of Opinion, That Mr. Ogden, if possible, be Engaged in this Cause, and that Mr. Alexander Use his Endeavours for it, that Mr. Murray have also a Retainer, and that William Smith, Attorney General of New York, be also Engag'd if possible.

A true Copy. JOHN SMITH, Reg^r.

Perth Amboy, March 31st 1752.

Sir:

The foregoing are Copys of the Minutes of the Proprietors of East Jersey, Relateing to the Tryal of Messrs Penns ag^t Robert Sandford.

I am,

Your very humble Servant,

JOHN SMITH.

Directed.

To Richard Peters, Esqr, att.,
Philadelphia.

Deposition of Anthony Worley and Others, 1752.

1. The *Examination of Anthony Worley*, of the Towhship of Heidleberg, in the County of York, in the Province of Pennsylvania, Cordwainer, taken the Twenty-sixth Day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Fifty-two, Before William Allen, Esqr, Chief Justice of the same Province.

The said Examinant, Anthony Worley, upon his Oath on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, being solemnly examined, did depose and say, That on or about the Twenty-sixth Day of February last past, as he, the Examinant, was going to Smith's Shop, near to Mr. John Diggs's of Heidleberg Township, Henry Diggs, the Son of Mr. John Diggs, aforesaid, came to him and ask'd him to go with him to Martin Kitzmiller's, whereupon the Examinant said to the said Henry, "I am going there presently—What are you going there about?" To which the said Henry reply'd, "To take Martin Kitzmiller." That he, the Examinant, then said, that he did not care for going there upon such an Account, as some Trouble might fol-

low. That during this Discourse, the aforesaid Mr. John Diggs came to them, who persuaded the Examinant to go, telling him, that as there might happen some Contention, and perhaps Blows, he would have him to go, and he might be a Means of preventing them. That the said Mr. John Diggs also told him that the Sheriff would be there too. That he, the Examinant, went to Martin Kitzmiller's, and a little after him Henry Diggs came there. That he, the Examinant, carry'd his Gun with him in order to get Jacob Kitzmiller, the Son of the aforesaid Martin Kitzmiller, to make a Wiper (by which he means a Screw) for his Gun, which the said Jacob promised to make for him. That when Henry Diggs came there, who also brought a Gun with him, the Examinant and the said Henry try'd who could shoot best, for which end Martin Kitzmiller shew'd them a Tree. That, soon after, the Person who was called the Sherif came up to Martin Kitzmiller's House, at which Time the Examinant was in a Store Room in the said House with one John Seifert, a Taylor, who was working there at his Trade. That while he, the Examinant, was in the Store Room, he ask'd for a Dram, but could get none. That there was a great Noise out of Doors, and he heard Martin Kitzmiller, whose Voice he could well distinguish, call out, "Shoot Dudley Diggs." That thereupon he, the Examinant, ran out of the House and received a Blow immediately, which knocked him down, but from whom he knows not, and that before he was risen again, he heard a Gun discharged; and, as soon as he got up, he ran to the Back of the House, and, in a short Time after returned again, and Meeting Martin Kitzmiller, the said Martin bid him "Begone, for you are the Person that brought these People here," and then pointing a Gun towards the Examinant, said, "I will shoot you if you don't go off." That he, the Examinant, going towards the Smith's Shop to get his Horse and Gun, he saw Dudley Diggs, a Son of the aforesaid John Diggs, laying down on the Ground, and ask'd him whether he was shot, to which the said Dudley Diggs answer'd, "Yes—I am shot." That he the Examinant, thereupon went away. That the Examinant has, since that Time, heard the aforesaid Mr. John Diggs say, that the Person whom he called the Sherif was one John Wilmott, deputed by the Sherif of Baltimore County, in the Province of Maryland. That he has been acquainted with Martin Kitzmiller nine or ten years past. That, according to the best Information the Examinant has had, and the best of his Judgment, the said Martin Kitzmiller's Dwelling is about four miles to the Northward of the Temporary Line which was run some years since between the Governments of Pennsylvania and Maryland, and that he believes, (though he is not sure,) that the said Martin Kitzmiller pays his Taxes in Pennsylvania.

ANTHONY WORLEY.

Sworn at the City of Philadelphia, the afsd. 26th day of March, 1752, before me, WILL. ALLEN.

Deposition of John Stackers, 1752.

2. The Examination of John Stackers, of Heidleberg Township, in the County of York, Mason, Before William Allen, Esqr, Chief Justice of the Province of Pennsylvania, the Twenty-sixth Day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Fifty-two.

The said Examinant, John Stackers, (Mason,) being solemnly examined on his Oath on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, did depose and say, that on or about the twenty-sixth Day of February last past, he was at the House of Mr. John Diggs, when Henry Diggs, a Son of the said John Diggs, ask'd him whether he would go with him to Martin Kitzmiller's in order to take the said Martin Kitzmiller. That John Wilmot, who was called the Sheriff, Dudley Diggs, another Son of John Diggs, Anthony Worley, and Patrick Coyle, were then there. That he, the Examinant, consented to go. That they all set out from Mr. Diggs's to go to Martin Kitzmiller's House. That Anthony Worley and Henry Diggs had their Guns with them. That Worley said he wanted Jacob Kitzmiller, (Martin's Son,) to make a Wiper (meaning a Screw) for it. That the said Anthony Worley & Henry Diggs got to Kitzmiller's a little before the Rest of the Company. That upon his, the Examinant's, coming to Kitzmiller's House, he went into the House, where he saw Anthony Worley, who he heard ask for a Dram. That he came out from the House and went to Henry Diggs, who was behind the Smith's Shop. That while he was there he heard Martin Kitzmiller call for his Gun. That Jacob Kitzmiller got a Gun, and Dudley Diggs seized it and strove to take it from the said Jacob. That he, the Examinant, having turned about a little the Gun was discharg'd and he saw Dudley Diggs fall pretty near him. That he, the Examinant, don't remember to have seen Henry Diggs have his Gun in his Hand at any Time during the Disturbance and Scuffle between Diggs's Company and Kitzmiller's Family. That the Sheriff, as he was call'd, and Patrick Coyle, went away immediately after Mr. Dudley Diggs fell. That a few Minutes after the Examinant received a violent Blow over the Shoulder with a Club, as he verily believes from one of Martin Kitzmiller's Sons, (which of them he is not sure, but he believes from one of the younger Sons,) not from him who is supposed to have shot Mr. Diggs. That he soon went away and told Mr. John Diggs what had happened.

His
JOHN ⋈ STACKERS.
Mark.

Taken and Sworn at the City of Philadelphia,
the 26th Day of March, 1752, Before me,
Will. Allen.

* See Colon. Rec. Vol. V. pp. 582—597.

The Examination of Patrick Coyle, 1752.

The Examination of Patrick Coyle, of Heidleberg Township, in York County, Mason, Before William Allen, Esqr., Chief Justice of the Province of Philadelphia, the Twenty-Sixth Day of March, in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Fifty-two.

The said Examinant, Patrick Coyle, being examined, on his solemn Oath on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, did depose and say, that he was at the House of Mr John Diggs, of Heidleberg Township, on the Twenty-fifth Day of February last past, and that John Willmot, who was called the Sheriff by the said Mr Diggs, was there likewise; that in the Evening of that Day it was agreed between the said John Willmot, the Examinant, & some others, that they would go the next Day and take Martin Kitzmiller, of Manheim Township. The Examinant being persuaded by Mr John Diggs to go, Mr Diggs telling him that he might be a means of preventing Blows, or some Hurt being done, if any Quarrel should happen. That, accordingly, the next Day, the said John Willmot, John Stackers, Anthony Worley, Dudley Diggs and Henry Diggs, Sons of the aforesaid Mr John Diggs, and the Examinant, went to Martin Kitzmiller's House, in order to apprehend the said Martin. That the said Henry Diggs & Anthony Worley had each of them a Gun with him. That Anthony Worley said he carry'd his Gun with him in Order to get a Wiper (meaning thereby a Screw) made by Jacob Kitzmiller, Martin's son. That the aforesaid John Willmot taking hold of Martin Kitzmiller, told him that he took him in his Lordship's Name, at the Suit of John Diggs. That they struggled together, the said Martin striving to get away from the said John Willmot. That the said Martin Kitzmiller called out for a Gun. Whereupon the aforesaid Jacob Kitzmiller run into the Smith's Shop, and brought out from thence a Gun. That the aforesaid Dudley Diggs seized the Gun, and desired the said Jacob to discharge it, who answered, "I will not shoot any Man, let the Gun go." That there was a Struggle for some Time between them for the Gun, during which the Examinant was afraid some Mischief would happen, and therefore was going towards the said Dudley and Jacob in order to take the Gun from them, when he received two Blows with a club from John Leonard Kitzmiller, another son of Martin, which Blows the Examinant return'd with a Stick he had in his Hand, which he used, when riding, instead of a Horse Whip. Whereupon the said John Leonard Kitzmiller dropt his Club & run off. That the said Jacob Kitzmiller, getting the Gun from the said Dudley Diggs, who turn'd about thereupon to go away from the said Jacob, the said Jacob pointed the said Gun, Breast high, directly towards the said Dudley, and, discharging it, shot him in the lower Part of his Back. Whereupon John Seifert, a Taylor, came

out of Martin Kitzmiller's House, and cry'd out that, "If they did not go off immediately, they should all be shot down as the Other lay, for they had no Business there." That they all thereupon went off. That the said Dudley Diggs dy'd of the Wound he receiv'd at that Time; and that neither Mr Henry Diggs, nor any other Person present, during the Affray, had any Gun in his Hands, except the one that Jacob brought out from the Smith's Shop.

PATRICK COYLL.

Taken and sworn at the City of Philadelphia, the said 26th Day of March, 1752. } Before me.

WILL. ALLEN.

THE EXAMINATION OF JOHN LEONARD KITZMILLER, 1752.

The Examination of John Leonard Kitzmiller, (Son of Martin Kitzmiller, of Manheim Township, in York County,) aged nineteen Years, or thereabouts, the twenty Sixth Day of March, in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Fifty two, Before William Allen, Esqr., Chief Justice of the Province of Pennsylvania.

The Examinant, John Leonard Kitzmiller, being examined, on his solemn Oath on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, deposeth and saith, That about the latter End of February last past, he the Examinant and his younger Brother John Kitzmiller, having been getting Turneps in a field at a little Distance from his Father's House, were bringing them Home, when the Examinant saw Henry Diggs, Son of Mr John Diggs, of Heidleberg Township, by his (the Examinant's) Father's Smith's Shop, holding a Gun in his Hands, and moving it to and fro, which Gun, as the Examint came nearer, he found to be directed towards the Examinant's Father, who was struggling to get free from a Man, a Stranger to the Examinant, who had fast Hold of him. That when he came up to his Father's House, he saw John Stackers, the aforesaid Henry Diggs, Anthony Worley, Dudley Diggs, (another Son of John Diggs,) Patrick Coyle, and the Stranger aforesaid, before the Door with the Examinant's Father and Mother among them. That some of the Company beat his Mother, pull'd off her Cap and tore her Hair. That his Brother John being frightened, soon ran away and hid himself, lest he should get hurt. That there was such Confusion, he cannot say who beat his Mother. That the aforesaid Henry Diggs, having laid aside his Gun, the said Henry and John Stackers beat the Examinant with Clubs, and broke and cut his Head, so that it bled very much. That he the Examinant ran away as soon as possible, being very much hurt and affrighted. That he did not see any Thing more till the Company

were dispersed, when he saw Dudley Diggs laying down by the Smith's Shop, but did not go him. That the Examinant's Father and the Examinant set out for York Town before the Death of Dudley Diggs, who, he understood, died some time after their leaving Home. That Jacob Kitzmiller, the Examinant's Brother, came to York Town soon after the Examinant & his Father. That Jacob Sheely came to the Examinant's Father's Mill with some Horse Loads of Wheat to be ground, and he believes continued thereabout during the whole Affray. That the Examinant's Father has liv'd where this Affray happen'd about thirteen Years and has paid his Taxes in Pennsylvania during that Time, & That his Father's House is four or five Miles Northward of the temporary Line for dividing the Provinces of Maryland and Pennsylvania.

LENHARD KUTZMULLER.

Taken and sworn at the City of Philadelphia on the said 26th Day of March, 1752. } Before me.

WILL. ALLEN.

Indorsed—"Examination of Patrick Coyle & John Leonard Kitzmiller, 26th March, 1752."

THE EXAMINATION OF JACOB SHEELY, 1752.

The Examination of Jacob Sheely, of Mountjoy Township, in York County, Wheelwright, Before William Allen, Esquire, Chief Justice of the Province of Pennsylvania, the twenty Sixth Day of March, in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Fifty-two.

The said Examinant, Jacob Sheely, upon his Oath on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, did solemnly depose and say, that about the End of February last past, or the beginning of this Month of March, he came to Martin Kitzmiller's Mill with three Horse Loads of Wheat to be ground That when the said Martin Kitzmiller was about to take the Wheat off the Horses, A Man, who is a Stranger to the Examinant, took Hold of Martin Kitzmiller's right Hand, and keeping his Hold, said to Martin Kitzmiller, I arrest you at the suit of Mr. John Diggs. That Mr. Dudley Diggs and the Man who seiz'd Martin Kitzmiller, with four other Persons, (whose Names are all unknown to the Examinant, tho' he knows that two of them are Masons,) were about Martin Kitzmiller's House and an Affray happened, during which Martin Kitzmiller's Wife and Son John Leonard Kitzmiller got some Blows; that he saw the Son come from a Field to his Father's Assistance, and soon after bleeding and running away from the Company. That two Guns were brought by the Company who came to Kitzmiller's House, but that during

the Affray the Examinant did not see any Gun among them, but the One which Jacob Kitzmiller, Martin's Eldest Son, had in his Hands. That Jacob Kitzmiller coming out of the Smith's Shop, and bringing a Gun with him, to assist his Father, Dudley Diggs and two Others seiz'd him and his Gun, and strove to wrest it out of his Hands. That during the struggle, the Gun was by some Means discharg'd, (but how or by what Means the Examinant knows not) whereby, he was inform'd, that the said Dudley Diggs was shot in the Back. That Martin Kitzmiller and his Sons soon went from Home, and all the other Company went off, except one, who remained with Dudley Diggs, who dyed in a few Hours after receiving the Wound aforesaid. That before the death of the said Dudley Diggs, he the Examin^t strove to lift him from the Ground, but he could not raise him. That he has known the aforesaid Martin Kitzmiller six or seven Years, and has been inform'd by People, who live near to Martin Kitzmiller, that the said Martin's House is about three or four miles distant from the Temporary Line, and that he understands and verily believes that the said Martin usually pays his Taxes in Pennsylvania. The Examinant being ask'd whether he saw Jacob Kitzmiller present or point the Gun towards Dudley Diggs? he answered that he did not see any such Thing.

JACOB SIELE.

Taken & sworn at the City of Philadelphia, the 26th Day of March, 1752. } Before me.

WILL. ALLEN.

A true Copy, carefully examined by

JAMES READ, Cl^r Co^r.

Indorsed—Examination of John Seifert & John Sheely, 26th March, 1752."

---

6. *The Examination of John Seifert*, of Heidelberg Township, in York County, Taylor, Before William Allen, Esquire, Chief Justice of the Province of Pennsylvania, the twenty-sixth day of March, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and Ffty-two.

The said Examinant, John Seifert, being examined, on his Oath, on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, did solemnly depose and say, that about the End of February last past, or the Beginning of this month of March, he was employed at his Trade, at Martin Kitzmiller's, and was in the House so seated, that he could see out of it from a Window and Door. That one Anthony Worley came into the House and told Martin Kitzmiller that he wanted half a gallon of Liquor, & desired him to let him have it, for he had won so much of Henry Diggs, in shooting at a Mark, having shot into the Black. Martin Kitzmiller said he had no Liquor. That the said Anthony Worley then went out of the House, and presently,

Dudley Diggs, Patrick Coyle, and another Person, unknown to the Examinant, came up to the Smith's Ship. That Jacob Sheely came about the Same Time to Martin Kitzmiller's Mill. That Henry Diggs, and Anthony Worley had Guns. That Martin Kitzmiller, being seized by one of the Company, called for Help, that he might get free. That the Wife of the said Martin, Juliana Kitzmiller, thereupon came out of the House, at which Time, the Person called the Sherif, had hold of Martin, and Henry Digg's Gun was pointed by the said Henry, towards the said Martin. That the said Kitzmiller's Wife going up to the Assistance of her Husband, was much pulled by the Person who had hold of him. That at length, Martin Kitzmiller got free and went into his House, where the Examinant still was. That very soon after, the Examinant heard a Gun go off, while Martin Kitzmiller was in the House, upon which the Exam^t. went out of the House. That he found that Dudley Diggs had received a Wound by Shot in the Back, of which Wound he died in two or three Hours. That M^r. Digg's Company, upon his receiving the Wound, went off as quickly as they could. For the said Martin Kitzmiller, bringing his Gun out of the House, threatened to shoot them, if they did not go off immediately. That the Man who had seized the said Martin, being about to get his Horse, the Examinant said to him, "I desire you would go and leave your Horse, or you "will certainly be a dead man." Whereupon, the said Person went off without his Horse. That the Examinant and Henry Diggs, (whom the Examinant call'd to come to his Brother, assuring him no One should hurt him,) strove to help the said Dudley Diggs on his Feet, & to move him, but could not carry him but a little way. That the Exam^t. then order'd the young Women about the House to bring some straw, and accordingly, some Bundles of Straw were brought, & spread under the said Dudley, who dy'd in two or three Hours. That Martin Kitzmiller & his sons, Jacob and John Leonard, went away, as he believes, to York Town, to give an Account of this unhappy Affair. That, before the Death of Dudley Diggs, he heard the said Dudley say, "God Almighty will forgive "him, and I hope they will not hurt the Boy." That he, the Exam^t., knows the Temporary Line between the Provinces of Maryland & Pennsylvania, and it is distant about four miles southward of Martin Kitzmiller's House. That he understands, and really believes, that the said Martin usually pays his Taxes in Pennsylvania, for that he once saw him pay Taxes, (when the Exam^t. was at his House,) he thinks so, to Frederick Kelwicks, of York County, last Year. The Examin^t. being ask'd where Henry Diggs stood, when he pointed his Gun towards Martin Kitzmiller? and how long he stood wth. his Gun so pointed? He answer'd, that the said Henry Diggs stood at the Corner of the Smith's Shop, on the side where the Door is, and that he does not know how long he held his Gun pointed, or had it in his Hands.

JOHN SEIFERT.

Taken and sworn, at the City of Philadelphia, the 26th Day of March, Anno Domini, 1752, Before me,

WILL. ALLEN.

NICHOLAS SCULL TO WM. PARSONS, 1752.

Philad., May 23d, 1752.

DEAR SIR :—

This Morning, about 7 O'Clock, Captain Shirley arrived from London, by Mr. Peters, receiv'd a Letter from the Proprietor, concerning the Town of Easton, an Extract of which he has sent you. I have sent you a Plan, of what I conceive to be the Proprietors intention concerning the Square; you will see that the Lots on the East side of the Square, cannot be 120 feet, as his honour proposed, inasmuch, as the Lots on that side, are not more than 230 feet deep, as appears by a rough draft of the plan sent home, which I have sent you. I have laid them down 110 feet, as they realy will be, according to the proprietors Scheme; as to the other parts of his directions concerning the Lots, you will no doubt conform to what he proposes, as far as you find it practicable, for you will see, that after he has given direction about the Square, the rest of what he says, is little more than proposing what may be done, to which I can say nothing, as not knowing how it will affect the new plan, of which I have no Copy.

It is a misfortune, that we did not know the Proprietors pleasure sooner, but as that can't be now helpt, we must do as well as we can; however, make no doubt but you will clearly see the proprietors design by his Letter. It seems to me, that if his Instructions concerning the Lots fronting the Square, be complied with, it will be a thing indifferent, how the others adjoining them are laid. And between Friends, I think, that the Square proposed by his Honour, is too Small for Publick uses, when a Fifty Foot Street is left between that and the buildings; however, you will consider whether it will be best to depart a little From the Proprietary Scheme, when it is of a manifest advantage in regard to the Size of the Adjoining Lots to do so, or keep strictly to his directions.

I Sincerely Sympathize with you in your present Situation, in regard to the People who will next Monday apply for Lots, when by reason of this new Scheme, it will not be in your power to serve them, till you have found another plan; how you will manage, is hard to say, but your known resolution & dispatch, gives me hopes, that you will conduct the affair to the satisfaction of all concerned, notwithstanding what he wrote to you Yesterday, that you will not meddle with the water Lots till further orders. I know nothing of the contents of the First Letter, Save the Extract that you have, and

consequently, nothing of what is done about running the provincial Lines, nor have I any News to tell you.

I am, dear Friend,
Yours Sincerely,
NICHO. SCULL.

Direction.
"To William Parsons, Esqr., at Easton."

Statement of Excise Collected, 1752–3.

Collected from 1st *June*, 1752 *to* 1753, *by the following Col'rs of Excise*, Viz^t:

By Jos. Redman, in Philad^a. County,	£2,000 12 08	
Sundry Retailers, @ £3 ℔ annum,	203 05 00	
A moiety of Fines,	20 15 00	
	2,224 12 08	
deduct 5 ℔ cent. for receiving,	111 04 07½	
		£2,113 08 0½
By John Woolston, in Bucks C^o.	£283 05 00	
Sundry Retailers,	9 00 00	
	292 05 00	
deduct 10 ℔ cent. for Receiving,	29 04 06	
		£263 00 06
By Jerem^e. Star, in Chester C^o.,	£427 16 00	
Sundry Retailers,	7 10 00	
	435 06 00	
deduct 10 ℔ cent.,	43 10 07	
		391 15 05
By Arthur Patterson, in Lan^cr. C^o.,	£223 05 01	
deduct 10 ℔ cent.,	22 06 07	
		200 18 06
By David McCananghy, in York C^o.,	£60 18 04	
deduct 10 ℔ cent.,	6 01 10	
		54 16 06
By James Lindsey, in Cumberland County,	£55 00 04	
deduct 10 ℔ cent.,	5 10 00	
		49 10 04
By John Hughes, in Berks C^o.,	£404 01 02	
Moiety of Fines,	5 00 00	
	409 01 02	
deduct 10 ℔ cent.,	40 18 01	
		368 03 01

By Daniel Cray, in Northampton Co., deduct 10 ℘ cent., . . .	£86 07 00 8 12 08½	77 14 3¼
Amount of Excise from June 1st, 1752, to 1st June, 1753, . .		£3,519 06 08

Income of the Loan Office Collected from last year's Acc't, Viz:

Principal Sums or Quotas not become due, ...	£49,582 13 04	
Quotas Outstanding, and now due, .	19,552 09 02	
102 Mortgages taken on the 7th Re-Emission of the 2d, £80,000 Act, ...	6,601 10 00	
41 Mortgages taken on the 8th Re-Emission of said Act, . .	3,038 00 00	
Outstanding Interest on all ye Mortgages, for which Broken Interest is Paid, . . .	8,460 12 03	
	87,235 04 09	
Interest on £87,235 04 09, @ 5 ℘ cent., ...		£4,361 15 02
		7,881 01 10
Deduct what is to be sunk yearly out of the £5,000, granted for the Kings' use, . . .		500 00 00
The Neat Produce of the Excise and Interest Money ℘ Annum,		£7,381 01 10

NB. The Excise is calculated for the year 1753, none but one of the Collectors having settled for 1754, and therefore, the amount of that year could not be Estimated.

An Account of Publick money that should have been in hand 15*th Septem'r last, by the Laws now in being,* Vizt.:

Outstanding Interest on all the Mortgages, .	£8,460 12 03
Cash in the hands of the Trustees, . . .	1,255 03 05
Cash in the Hands of the Treasurar, . .	462 10 10
If the Mortgage Deeds were Carefully Examined, there would be, without all doubt, £6,000, due for Broken Interest upon all the Outstandings. However, to be rather under than over, they are put down at, .	4,000 00 00
	£14,178 06 06

Subscribers to Pennsa. Hospital, 1751–2.

List of Subscribers to the Capital Stock of the Pennsylvania Hospital.

List of those that have given Bonds.

1751.

5th. mo. 1st.,	Israel Pemberton,	100
	Israel Pemberton, junr.,	100
	Benj. Franklin,	25
	Anthony Morris, junr.,	50
	Isaac Jones,	10
	Thomas Cadwallader,	25
	Thomas Bond,	25
	Joseph Morris,	15
	James Pemberton,	25
	David Hall,	10
	Samuel Rhoads,	10
	Charles Norris,	25
	Isaac Norris,	100
	John Ross,	15
	Charles Jones,	15
	Rees Meredith,	40
	William Fishbourn,	15
	Chas. & Alexr. Stedman,	40
6th. mo. 13th.,	William Plumstead,	25
5th. mo. 1st.,	Robert Tuik,	20
	Thomas Lightfoot,	15
	Robert Moore,	25
	Wight Massey,	10
	Samuel Mifflin,	25
	Hugh Roberts,	25
	Joseph Fox,	25
	Anthony Morris,	75
	Samuel Noble,	10
	Thomas Lawrence, junr.,	10
	Abel James,	15
	John Jones,	10
	Joseph Leech,	10
	John Redman,	10
	George Mifflin,	25
6th. mo. 14th.,	John Mifflin,	25
5th. mo. 1st.,	Evan Morgan,	10
	Joseph King,	10
	John Smith,	50
	William Griffits,	10
	Morris Morris, junr.,	10
	Samuel Neave,	25
	Amount carried forward,	——

1751.	Amount brought forward,			
5th. mo. 1st.,	Jonathan Mifflin,	33	6	8
	Jacob Lewis,	10		
	Francis Richardson,	15		
	John Hughes,	10		
	Enoch Flower,	15		
1752.				
1st. mo. 10th.,	William Shippen,	10		
2d. mo. 19th.,	James Logan,	25		
1751.				
5th. mo. 1st.,	Townsend White,	10		
1752.				
3d. mo. 1st.,	Matthew Johns,	10		
	Daniel Williams,	10		
	Peter Sonmans,	12		
1751.				
5th. mo. 1st.,	Solomon Fussel,	10		
	William Branson,	50		
	Thomas Say,	10		
1752.				
1st. mo. 1st.,	Benjamin Loxley,	12		
1751.				
5th. mo. 1st.,	Phineas Bond,	10		
1752.				
3d. mo. 1st.,	Joseph Lownes,	12	10	
10th. mo. 25th.,	James Wright,	20		
	John Bleakey,	50		
		1,454	16	8

List of Subscribers that have not given Bonds.

William Allen,	50	John Campbell,	3
Edward Hicks,	10	Jno. & Jacob Bankson,	10
William Hodge,	5	John Weir,	5
William Clemm,	3	Joseph Jonson,	5
Edmund Wolley,	5	John Brooks,	5
John Coates,	10	Andw. Rambo,	5
William Nicholson,	3	John Lacy,	5
William Wallace,	10	John Lord,	5
William Attwood,	50	Warwick Coates,	5
Lloyd Zachary,	30	Joseph Cox,	5
John Kearsley, Senr.,	30	Phillip Hubbert,	5
James Lownes,	10	Moses Cox,	3
John Kearsley, Junr.,	10	William Hinton,	2
Adam Thompson,	10	John Nixon,	10
William Blair,	10	Edward Shippen,	10
Augustine Hicks,	5		
John Blackey,	1		335

List of Subscribers Paid:

Joseph Wharton,	50	Peter Nygh,	10
Thomas Græme,	20	John Armitt,	20
Aaron Hassert,	25	John Nelson,	10
Thomas Stretch,	10	William Allen,	50
Anthony Benozett,	10	Stephen Anthony,	10
Joshua Crosby,	100	Joshua Fisher,	10
Adam Harker,	10	Joseph Trotter,	10
Caspar Wistar,	50	Thomas Paschal,	10
Richard Peters,	50	Isaac Greenleafe,	20
James West,	3	Thomas Lieusley,	4
William Allen,	50	William Moode,	10
John Reynell,	40	Joshua Howel,	10
Derrick Johnson,	25	Andrew Hodge,	4
Samuel Sansom,	15	John Pole,	15
Chris^{r}. Sour,	25	Joseph Richardson,	15
John Bowmans,	12	John Meas,	10
John Unbekandt,	10	Robert Willan,	10
Richard Farmer,	10	Edward Pennington,	20
John Wistar,	20	Matthias Koplins,	24
Saml. Pret^{n}. Moore,	30		
Samuel Powell,	50	Paid, ...	£962 00 00
Thomas Crosby,	25	Bonds, . . .	1,454 16 08
Daniel Benozett,	15	Subscriptions, .	335 00 00
Robert Janney,	10		
Samuel Hazard,	10	*Capital, . . .	£2,751 16 08
David Deshler,	15		

R. Peters to Geo. Stevenson, 1752.

Philad^{a}, 21st Septem^{r}, 1752.

Sir :

I inclose you the Copy of a Paper sent to our Governor by the President of Maryland, M^{r}. Tasker, and am directed by our Governor, in the most positive Terms, to inform You that none of the Officers of or for the County of York ought to assess a Levy on the persons mentioned in that Paper, or any others who live on any Tracts of Land possessed under Maryland Rights, though to the Northward of the Temporary Line, and that this be done, that they must forthwith discontinue and cease their Proceedings, because if the Officers of York County do this or any other Act of their re-

* "Copy examined by John Smith." Indorsement.

spective Offices, or if any Magistrate inforces Obedience to his Warrant or Precept, on the Peoples living on such Maryland Tracts, such Officers and Magistrates do hereby violate the Royal Order and will not be countenanced by the Governor, but most readily given up to be punished as such Offences deserve. Be pleased to make this publick, and tell all concerned in the Offices of Sheriff, Magistrate or Constable that they will incur heavy Penalties for their disobedience and it is expected from you in particular that you do all in Your power to prevent these and any other Breaches on his Majesties Order settling the Temporary Jurisdiction between the Two Provinces.

I am,
Sr,
Your most humble Servant,
RICHARD PETERS.

To Geo. Stevenson, Esqr.

Indorsed.
R. Peters's letter, by order of Governor, to Geo. Stevenson, 21 Septr, 1753.*

Order to Collect Taxes, 1752.

York *ss.*:

To John Coouse, Collector of Hidelberg:

These are to require you to Collect and Receive from the Persons Assessed the Several Sums in your Duplicate respectively mentioned, and in Six Weeks from the date hereof you are to pay in all such Sums of Money which you shall have Collected to David McConaughey, Treasurer, and shall Compleat and Pay in the whole and every the Sums afd on or before the fifth day of April next. But if any shall neglect or refuse Payment within thirty days after Demand made as afd, you are to levy the same on the Goods and Chattels of the Person Refusing by distress and Sale thereof rendering the Overplus (if any be) to the owner, reasonable Charges being first deducted; but if no distress can be found, and the Person neglects or refuseth to Shew You Goods or Chattles of his own forthwith to Satisfie the Money then due, with Charges, take the Body of the Person so refusing to the County Goal and deliver him to the Sheriff or keeper of the said Goal, who shall detain him in Safe Custody without Bail or Main prize, untill payment be made, and the Constable of your district is Commanded to be Assisting to

* "Read in Council Sept. 27." Not noticed on minutes.

you if there be Occasion: fail not at your Peril. Dated the Sixth day of January Anno Domini 1749–50.

PATT. WATTSON, } Commissioners.
WALTER SHARP, }

No.		£.	s.	d.	*No.*		£.	s.	d.
1.	Martin Bayers,	0	2	6	21.	Wm. Wapplesplace,	0	3	0
2.	Christain Stoner,	0	3	0	22.	Ludwick Shriner,	0	8	6
3.	Peter Shults,	0	6	0	23.	Cornelius McGaen,	0	2	0
4.	Casper Berkhamer,	0	2	6	24.	Jacob Pinkhart,	0	3	0
5.	Matthias Ullery,	0	2	0	25.	Anthony Sill,	0	7	6
6.	Philip Sower,	0	2	6	26.	Michael Will,	0	7	6
7.	Martin Ungfare,	0	5	0	27.	Peter Middlecalf,	0	6	6
8.	John Counts,	0	7	6	28.	David Young,	0	6	6
9.	John Morningstar,	0	7	0	29.	Andrew Hanier,	0	5	6
10.	Robert Owings,	0	10	0	30.	Conrad Eakron,	0	6	0
11.	Frederick Sheets,	0	5	0	31.	George Frush,	0	5	0
12.	Joseph Moor,	0	3	0	32.	Peter Gerson,	0	1	0
13.	Stephen Ullery,	0	7	6	33.	Henry Null, Dr.,	0	3	6
14.	George Shrier,	0	6	0	34.	Michael Behlar,	0	6	6
15.	Nicholas Furney,	0	2	6	35.	Robert Whitehead,	0	1	6
16.	Philip Kinsfoor,	0	3	0	36.	Henry Knouf,	0	2	6
17.	John Leatherman,	0	4	0	37.	John Shreder,	0	5	0
18.	Adam Cook,	0	4	0	38.	Andrew Shriver,	0	6	0
19.	Jacob Perts,	0	2	0	39.	George Coffman,	0	9	0
20.	John Digges,	0	7	0	40.	James McClain,	0	2	0
	Total sum of this Duplicate,						£9	10	0

Copy.

Indorsed.

Inclosed in President Tasker's Letter of 30th July, 1752.*

Copy Gov. Hamilton to Gov. Tasker, 1752.

Philadelphia, the 17 October, 1752.

Sir:

I have sent the Bearer, Jonas Osborn, Express with directions to apply to your Land Office for Copies of all Orders, Warrants, Certificates of Surveys, Patents and other Papers there Registered, which have been made or issued for the Surveying and Granting the Tract of Land called Digges's Choice, situate to the Northward of the

* Referred to in Col. Rec. Vol. IV., p. 592, "inclosed in Pres't Tasker's letter, July 30, 1752," & referred to in R. Peters's letter above.

Temporary Line, And am to request that you will please to give your Orders for having them Exemplified with all possible dispatch, and Certified under the Great Seal of your Province.

I am,
Sir,
Your most Obedient & most humble
Servant,
J. H.

Hon. Benjn Tasker, Esqre,

Indorsed.

Draught Letter of Govr Hamilton to Presid^t Tasker, by Express, 17 Oct^r, 1752.

Instructions to Joseph Osborn, 1752.

Philadelphia, 17 October, 1752.

Jonas Osborne:

You are to proceed to Annapolis with all possible Dispatch, and deliver the Governor's Letter to the President, of which I herewith give you a Copy.

As soon as you have delivered the Letter, in case Mr. Tasker does not give you particular directions to the officers of the Land Office, to make out Copies of all Orders, Warrants, Certificates of Surveys, Patents, and other Papers there registered, wch have been record'd or issued for the surveying & granting the Tract of Land called Digges's Choice, You are to go to the land office yourself & apply to the proper officers for such Copies, and when made out and completed under ye Great seal, you are to pay the officers their Demand, taking Receipts, if usual, if not usual, then let them alone.

If they refuse to make out the Copies, be sure minute down in your Books what they say to you; & take care that you apply to the proper officers, and put down in case of refusal every thing that they say, y^t you may make Oath of if its required.

If the Papers are not ready so as that you can be at Newcastle this day seven-night, you are to proceed to Lancaster, and deliver to Mr. Francis the President's answer, with such Papers as you shall have procured, & go wth him to York Co. We shall desire it, in order to give your Evidence to the Court at York, wch is to be ye 30th Instant; there I shall see you, and in case ye ten guineas are not sufficient to defray ye Expences of Copies and your Charges, apply to Mr. Dulany, Senior or Junior, at Annapolis, who are hereby desired to furnish you wth what money you want, & ye Governor will thankfully repay it.

I write & sign these Instructions by order of the Governr.

RICHARD PETERS.

Gov. Tasker to Gov. Hamilton, 1752.

Annapolis, 21st October, 1752.

Sir,

Agreeable to yours of the 17th Instant, I have given Directions to the proper Officers to make out Copies of the several Orders, Warrants, Certificates of Surveys, Patents and All other Papers relating to Mr. Digges's Survey, exemplifyed as you desire, These I hope will convince you that His Grant was made Three years before the Royal Order for the temporary Line.

I have directed This to be done without Fee or Reward.

I am,
Sir,
your most Obedient,
humble servant,
BENJ. TASKER.

Honble James Hamilton, Esq.

Petition of Henry Darnall to Judges, 1752.

A Petition of Henry Darnall, Esqr, Attorney General of the Province of Maryland, Presented to the Honourable the Judges of Oyer & Terminer & Jail Delivery, now sitting at York Town, in York County, in the Province of Pennsylvania, Sheweth,

That the Attorney General of Maryland has Orders from the Honourable the President and Council of that Province, to declare to this Honourable Court, That the Government of Maryland well hoped That the laudable Endeavours of their Government would effectually have answered the desirable Ends and Purposes of his most Gracious Majesty, by enforcing Obedience to the Royal Order, in Council, Dated at Kensington, on the twenty-fifth Day of May, Seventeen Hundred & Thirty-Eight, to preserve Peace and good Order amongst all his Majesty's Subjects, settled on the Borders of the two Provinces.

But it is with a good deal of concern, they have received the News of the Disorders, which have lately broke out upon the Borders of their Province and this of Pennsylvania.

Upon the first Notice of the Death of the late Mr. Dudley Digges, a Gentleman of a good Family, and an Inhabitant of the Province of Maryland, & upon Information That he was killed at a Place in the Possession of a Person or Persons who held it under a Right from the Proprietor of that Province, a very careful Inquiry into the Nature of the Fact, of the Persons who killed him, of all those who were accessaries to it, & of the Place where it was done, was imme-

diately made by the Government of Maryland; And upon this Inquiry, they found That the Place where this cruel Act was perpetrated, was held in Possession under the Right Honourable the Lord Baltimore, Proprietor of Maryland, whereupon they conceived that it expressly fell within the third Proposition confirmed by the Royal Order aforesaid, which provides That "All other Lands in Contest "between the said Proprietors, now possest by or under either of "them, shall remain in the possession as they now are, altho' be-"yond the temporary Limits thereinafter mentioned, And also the "jurisdiction of the respective Proprietors shall continue over such "Lands, until the Boundaries shall be finally settled, And that the "Tenants of either side shall not attorn to the other, nor shall either "of the Proprietors or their Officers, receive or accept of attorn-"ments from the Tenants of the other Proprietor."

Upon this Inquiry into the Fact, and from the just Sense & Obedience, the Government of Maryland would on all occasions shew to the Orders and Directions of his most gracious Majesty. His Honour the President, conceived it to be his indispensible Duty, to inform the Government of Pennsylvania, That the murder of the late Mr. Dudley Digges, was committed within the jurisdiction of the Lord Proprietor of Maryland, and offered Proofs to show That the place where the cruel Act was done, had been included within a Survey made by a Maryland Surveyor, before the Date of the said last recited Royal Order, in favour of Mr. John Digges, the Father of the deceased, in virtue of a Warrant before then obtained in the usual Form out of the Land office of the Lord Proprietor of Maryland.

Upon which his Honour the Governor of Pennsylvania, thought proper to give notice, That the Tryal of Jacob Kitzmiller, for the killing the late Mr. Dudley Digges, was to be held at this Place, & upon this Day, and was further pleased to signify, That any Persons authorized by the Government of Maryland, or any others concerned, might lay before the Grand & petit Jurors qualified to try him, all legal Proofs, to shew the Jurisdiction in this case belongs to the Lord Proprietor of Maryland.

His Honour, the President of Maryland, willing to do every thing on his part, which may manifest an unfeigned and most perfect Obedience to all the Orders of his Sovereign, has thereupon in Council thought fit to direct the underwritten Attorney General, to attend this Honourable Court, and has expressly charged him to insist that the Tryal of Jacob Kitzmiller be had in Maryland, where the Fact was committed, and not in Pennsylvania.

Of which Order the said Attorney General acquits himself with the greater Confidence, as he humbly apprehends that his Honour, the President of Maryland, demands no more than what the Orders of his Royal Master exact from him. And he further hopes, That this Honourable Court will the more readily acquiesce in so reasonable and just a Requisition, as it is of public Notoriety That the

aforesaid Dudley Digges was killed at a Place surveyed under a Maryland Warrant, before the Date of the said Royal Order of 1738, and possest under a Maryland Right, and That no Attornment or other Pretext of Martin Kitzmiller, or of any other Person or Persons after the Date of the said Order, will prevent or take away the Right of the said Proprietor of Maryland, or can in the least hinder the Force, Effect and Operation of his Majesty's most gracious Intentions.

Given at York Town, in York County, on the 30th Day of October, Anno Domini, 1752.

Signed,

H. DARNALL,
Attorney Gen'l of Maryland.

Indorsed—Copy Petition of Attorney General of Maryland, to the Supreme Court at York, in relation to the Tryal of the Kitzmillers. 30 October, 1752.*

Wm. Parsons to Richard Peters, respecting Easton, 1752.

Easton, December 8th, 1752.

Richd Peters, Esqr.

Sir,

Upon removing my Family to this Place, my Thoughts have been more engaged in considering the circumstances of this Infant Town than ever, as well with regard to its neighbourhood, as the Probability there is of its being furnished with Provisions from the Inhabitants near about it, and if there already is, or probably may in time be, a sufficient number of settlers to carry on any considerable Trade with the Town. For without these it is not likely that it will be improved to any great height, as well with Regard to the Town itself, that is to say, its Situation, as to Health, Trade and Pleasantness. Easton is situate in the Fork of the River Delaware, exactly in that Part of the Fork where the two main Branches meet, and is bounded on the South by the West Branch, and on the East with the main Branch of the River which runs in this Place, nearly North and South, about 120 Perches to a very pleasant Brook of Water, called Tattamy's Creek, which bounds the Town to the North. On the West it is bounded by a pretty high hill, that runs nearly parellel to and at the Distance of 130 Perches from the Main Branch. The Scite of the Town is pleasant and very agreeable, the Banks of all the Waters bounding it, are high and clean, and if it was as large again as it is, being now about 100 acres, it might be said to be a

* See Col. Rec. Vol v. p. 583–597.

very beautiful place for a Town. It is true that it is surrounded on every side by very high hills, which make it appear under some Disadvantages at a Distance, and might give some occasion for suspicion of its not being very healthy. But during all the last summer, which was very dry, and the Fall, which has been remarkably wet, I don't know that any one has been visited with the Fever or any other Sickness, notwithstanding most of the People have been much exposed to the night air and wet weather. From whence I make no Difficulty to conclude the Place is and will continue very healthy. As to the external advantages or Disadvantages of the Town, I am not yet suffictently acquainted with the country to enumerate them all. The most conspicuous are the adjacent Rivers. The main Branch in some Seasons of the Year, is navigable for small craft, from near 100 miles above the Town to Philadelphia. And if it were cleared in some Places of the Rocks which impede the Navigation in the Summer Season, above as well as below the Town, (and I have been told that it is practicable in some good measure to clear them,) the Advantage that would accrue from the Trade to and from Philadelphia, must be very considerable, as Water Carriage is much cheaper, and, in respect to several kinds of Merch^t Goods, much safer than Land Carriage. And in Regard to the Trade up the River, that would likewise be very advantageous to the Town, as well as to the Country in general, even in the single Article of Lumber, as there is great plenty of almost all kinds of Timber above the Mountains, where there is also many good conveniencies for erecting Saw Mills, and several are built there already, From whence the Town might readily be supplied with Boards, Scantling, &c. The West Branch will also be of Advantage to the Town, as it is navigable several miles for small Craft. And Tattamy's Creek, being a good Stream of Water to erect Mills upon, will also contribute towards the Advancement of the Place. The Jersey side being at present more settled near the River, opposite to the Forks, than the Pennsylvania Side, and indeed the Land on that Side is better watered and more convenient for Settlements, than it is on this Side for several miles about Easton. We have been supplied as much or more from that side, as from our own. But how Mr. John Cox's Project of laying out a Town upon his Land adjoining Mr. Martin's Land, on that side the River, opposite to Easton, may affect this Town, is hard to say, and time only can obviate. But notwithstanding the Advantages already mentioned, and perhaps many have escaped my notice, it must be confest that the Town labours under several considerable Disadvantages. The first that offers, I mention with Submission, is the great Tract of Land called the dry Land, to the Westward of the Town. This with another Tract adjoining the Town to the Northward, being all together about 20,000 acres, is almost the only Part of the Country that, by its nearness to the Town, were it settled and improved, could conveniently and readily afford a constant Supply of Provisions of all kinds, especially the

smaller kinds which would not be so convenient for Persons who live more remote to furnish. To the Westward and Northward of the dry Land, are the Moravian Settlements, about eleven Miles from the Town. These Settlements are not only of no Advantage, but rather a great Disadvantage to the Town. For being an entire and separate Interest by themselves, corresponding only with one another where they can possibly avoid it, except where the Advantage is evidently in their Favour, it can't be expected that the Town should reap any Benefit from them. Besides, as they have not hitherto raised, and as their Number is continually encreasing by the yearly addition of Foreigners, it is not likely that they will, in time to come, raise sufficient Provision for themselves, but are obliged to purchase great Quantities from their Neighbours, who would otherwise bring it to the Town, but this is not to be expected while they can dispose of what they have to sell so much nearer Home. And this leads me to wish, for the good of Easton, if the Honourable the Proprietaries should incline to have the dry Lands improved, that it may not be disposed of to the Moravians. Not because they are Moravians, but because their interest interferes so much with the Interest of the Town. If the dry Lands should be settled chiefly by them, the Master Brethren would have the whole Direction and Disposal of all that should be raised there. Which would be more discouraging and worse to the Town, than if that Land were not inhabited at all. For as long as it remains uncultivated, it will serve for Range to the Town Cattle. Between the Town and the Mountains, which is about 16 miles, is mostly poor Land, and but thin settled. The other Side of the Mountain consists chiefly of new Settlements, except the Minisinks and some other Plantations near the River. But very probably in time they will contribute to the Advancement and Trade of the Town. On the South Side of the West Branch, the Country is the most and best settled, except near the Town, where the Land is very hilly and stony. Upon the whole, the Town has hitherto been very well supplied with Meal, Beef, Pork, Mutton, Butter, Turnips, &c. But how it will be supplied with Hay and Pasturage, I can't yet clearly foresee. I mean if the Town encreases, as I am in great hopes it will. For this Winter, I think we are pretty well provided. However, this leads me to mention Out Lots, which will be more particularly wanted here than at any of the other new County Towns, as they are all of them much better accommodated with Meadow Ground, near about them, than this Town is. If I might presume to speak my Opinion, and I know you expect I should, if I speak at all. I could wish that a sufficient Quantity of the dry Lands might be appropriated for Out Lots, and that all the Rest were to be settled and improved, and that, by Dutch People; altho' they were of the poorer sort of them. I don't mention Dutch People from any particular Regard that I have for them more than for other People. But because they are generally more laborious and conformable to their Circumstances, than some others

amongst us are. I need not say who they are, but it is an old Observation, that poor Gentle-Folks don't always prove the fittest to begin new Places, where Labour is chiefly wanted.

I can't hear of any considerable Body of Clay for making Bricks or Potters Work, upon any of the Proprietary's Land near the Town, but upon the 500 Acre Tract which was surveyed for Mr. Thomas Craig, near the Town, I am told there is very good Clay, both for a Potter and Brickmaker. The 500 acres belongs now to one Correy, in Chester County, I wrote to you about it very largely in a former Letter. There is now eleven Families in Easton, who all propose to stay there this Winter. And when our Prison is finished, which there is Hopes it soon will be, as it is now covered in, there is great Probability that the number will encrease before the Spring.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient,

humble Servant,

WM. PARSONS.

Indorsed—Copy Wm. Parson's Letter to R. P. about Easton, of the 8 Decr, 1752. Original sent to Propr by Captn Browne, in Lre, of mine, the 15th Decr, 1752.

Petition from Berks and Northampton Counties, 1753.

To the Honourable The Governour and Council of the Province of Pennsylvania:

The Petition of Divers of the Inhabitants of the Counties of Berks and Northampton.

Humbly Sheweth,

That there is great Occasion of a Road from Easton, in the said County of Northampton, to Reading, in the said County of Berks, the Roads now Commonly used, not being laid out by any Authority, either from this Board or from the respective Courts of the said Counties, are often diverting and obstructed, and rendered almost impassable. Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly Pray that the Honourable Board will please to take such Order in the Premises as your Honours, in your Wisdom shall see meet, And your Petioners, as in Duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

Conrad Weiser,	John Jones,
Thos. Craig,	Jasper Scull,
Henry Harvy,	Thos. Armstrong,
Jonas Seely,	Benja. Lightfoot,
James Read,	Moses Heyman,

JACOB LEVAN,	LEWIS GORDON,
WM. PARSONS,	THEOBOLD BAUM,
WILL. CRAIG,	MERRICK STARR,
HU : WILSON,	JAMES STARR,
PETER HAWS,	LYON NATHAN,
CONRAD BOWER,	GEO. BEALE,
JOHN HUTTON,	ISAAC LEVAN,
JAMES BIDDLE,	PETER WEITNER,
RICHARD RIGG,	ABRAHAM CROSIUS,
YOST HENRICH SESMANS-HUSE,	PETER WEISER.*

GOVERNOR CLINTON TO GOVERNOR HAMILTON, 1753.

Sr.

I have had the Favour of yours of the 10th of May, with a Copy of Capt. Trent's to your Honour inclosed, which I communicated to His Majesty's Council, it came in good time for me to lay it before the Assembly, which mett the 30th of May, as I did also the inclosed Letters from Lieut. Holland and Capt. Stoddert, by which the French seem determined to fix their own Bounds. I can not find that the Assembly have done any thing yet in the affair, tho' the preservation of the Indians is of such Importance, but I shall do myself the Honour immediately to acquaint you, as soon as I can tell what they will determine on it.

I am of the same opinion with you, that unless the neighbouring Provinces will unite, and act jointly with spirit, we shall never curb the Insolence and Artifice of the French from withdrawing all our Indians to their interest entirely. I am with very great Truth,

Your Honours
most Obedient,
very humble Servant,
G. CLINTON.†

Flushing, on Long Island,
2d June, 1753.

* Read in Council, May 21, 1753. See Col. Rec. Vol. V. p. 576, 611. For names of persons appointed to lay it out, Vol. VI. p. 304.

† Read in Council, 7 Augt., 1753.

Commission to Samuel Kirk, Esq., 1753.

[L. S.] The honorable James Hamilton, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania, and Counties of New Castle, Kent and Sussex, upon Delaware.

To Samuel Kirk, of the City of Philadelphia, Greeting:

Copy.

Wheras, the House of Representatives of the Freemen of this Province in Assembly met, have requested me that I would be pleased to Commissionate a Person, to be Serjeant at Arms and King's Messenger, to attend the Service of the said House at all Times, with Power to Execute all Warrants, Precepts and Messages whatsoever, which Should be issued by their Orders: Know therefore, that I have nominated and appointed, And by this my Commission do nominate & appoint you, Samuel Kirk, to be Serjeant at Arms & King's Messenger and Proper Officer, to attend the Service of the House of Representatives of this Province, for the Time being, in Assembly met, at all Times, and to execute all Precepts, Warrants and Messages whatsoever, which Shall be issued under the Speaker's Hand, by order of the Said House. And all Magistrates & other Officers within this Province, are hereby charged & commanded to be Aiding & Assisting to you in the due Execution of your office, as they will answer the Contrary at their Peril. And this Commission is hereby declared to be and remain in Force, until my further Pleasure therein be made known.

Given under my Hand and the Lesser Seal of the Said Province, at Philad^{a}., this Twenty-Fifth Day of Augst, in the 27th Year of his Majesty's Reign, and in the Year of our Lord, 1753.

J. H.

Indorsed.

A Copy of the Sergeant at Arm's Commis^{n}, Augst, 1753.

Case and Opinion of Council, on certain Bills, 1753.

Case.

March 4, 1680.

King Charles the 2^{d}, by Letters Patent, under the Great Seal of England, granted a Tract of Land, in America, unto William Penn, Esqr., his Heirs and Assigns, and made him & them the true & absolute Proprietarys thereof, Saving always to the Crown, the Faith and Allegiance of the said William Penn, his Heirs & Assigns, & of the Tenants & Inhabitants of the Premises, and saving also unto the Crown, *the Sovereignty* of the said country.

[To hold to, & to the use of the s^d W^m. Penn, his Heirs & Assigns forever.

To be held of his s^d Ma^ty, his Heirs and Successors, Kings of England, as of the Castle of Windsor, in free and comon Soccage, by Fealty only, for all services, & not in Capite, or by Knights Service.

Rendering two Beaver Skins, yearly, and the 5th Part of all Gold and Silver Oar.

And his Ma^ty thereby erected the s^d Country into a Province, & Seigniory, & called it Pensilvania.

And thereby granted Free, Full & absolute Power, unto the s^d W^m. Penn & his Heirs, "& to his & their Deputys & Lieut^s, for "the good & happy Govm^t of the s^d Country, to ordain, make, "enact, & under his & their Seals to publish any Laws *whatsoever*, "For the raising of Mony For the public Use of the s^d Province, "& for any other End, appertaining, either to the public State, "Peace or Safety of the s^d Country, or unto the private utility of "particular Persons, according to their best Discretions, by & with "the Advice, Assent & Approbation of the Freemen of the s^d "Country, or the greater Part of them, or of their Delegates or De-"putys, whom, for the enacting of the said Laws, when & as often "as Need shall require, We will, that the said W^m. Penn, & his "Heirs, shall assemble in such Sort and Form as to him & them "shall seem best; And the s^d Laws, duely to execute unto & upon "all People within the s^d Country and Limits thereof."

Then there follow other Powers, to appoint Judges, Magistrates, &c. And afterwards, the Charter contains, in sundry different Parts, the other Clauses here following, vizt:

"Which Laws, so as afs^d to be published, Our Will & Pleasure "is, And so We injoin, require and comand, shall be most absolute "and available in Law, And that all the liege People & Subjects, of "Us, Our Heirs & Successors, do observe & keep the same, invio-"lably, in those Parts, so far as they concern them, under the Pain "therein expressed, or to be expressed: Provided nevertheless, That "the s^d Laws be consonant to Reason, And be not repugnant or "contrary, but as near as conveniently may be, agreeable to the "Laws, Statutes & *Rights* of this Our Kingdom of England.

"And our further Will and Pleasure is, That the Laws, For regu-"lating & governing of Property within the s^d Province, as well for "the Descent & Enjoym^t of Lands, as likewise for the Enjoym^t & "Succession of Goods & Chattles, & likewise, as to Felonys, shall "be & continue the same, as they shall be for the time being, by "the Gene^l Course of the Law in our Kingdom of England, *until* "the s^d Laws shall be altered, by the s^d W^m. Penn, his Heirs or "Ass^s, & by the Freemen of the s^d Province, their Delegates or De-"putys, or the greater Part of them.

"And to the end the s^d W^m. Penn, or his Heirs, or other the "Planters, Owners or Inhabitants of the s^d Province may not, at

"any Time hereafter, by Misconstruction of the Powers afs^{d}, thro' "Inadvertency or Design, depart from the Faith and due Allegiance "which, by the Laws of this Our Kingdom of England, They, & "all Our Subjects in our Dominions & Territorys, always owe unto "Us, our Heirs & Successors, by Colour of any Extent, or Large-"ness of Powers hereby given, or pretended to be given, or by "Force or Colour of any Laws hereafter to be made in the s^{d} Pro-"vince, by Vertue of any such Powers; Our further Will & Plea-"sure is, that a Transcript or Duplicate of all Laws which shall be, "so as afs^{d}, made & published within the s^{d} Province, shall, within "five Years after the making thereof, be transmitted & delivered "to the Privy Council, for the Time being, of Us, our Heirs & Suc-"cessors; And, if any of the s^{d} Laws, within 6 Months after that "they shall be so transmitted & delivered, be declared by Us, Our "Heirs or Successors, in Our or their Privy Council, *inconsistent "with the Sovereignty* or lawful Prerogative, of Us, our Heirs or "Successors, *Or contrary to the Faith & Allegiance* due by the legal "Gov^{e}m^{t} of this Realm, from the s^{d} W^{m}. Penn or his Heirs, or of "the Planters & Inhabitants of the s^{d} Province, And that, there-"upon, any of the s^{d} Laws shall be adjudged & declared to be void, "by Us, Our Heirs or Suscessors, under Our or their Privy Seal, "That then, and from thenceforth such Laws, concerning wch such "Judgm^{t} & Declaration shall be made, shall become void; Other-"wise, the s^{d} Laws, so transmitted, shall remain & stand in full "Force, according to the true Intent & Meaning thereof."

The Act of Parliam^{t}* for preventing Frauds & regulating Abuses in the Plant^{n} Trade, contains many Regulations, & amongst others, the following:

That all Gov^{es}, nominated & appointed by any Persons, or Proprietors, claiming any Right or Propriety in any Island or Tracts of Land upon the Continent of America, by Charter or Letters Patent, who shall be intitled to make such Nomination, shall be allowed & approved of by his Majesty, his Heirs & Successors, & shall take the Oaths injoined by that or any other Act, to be taken by the Gov^{rs} or Comd^{rs} in Chief, in other his Ma$^{ty's}$ Colonys and Plant^{ns}, before their entring upon their respective Gov^{e}m^{ts}, under the like Penalty his Ma$^{ty's}$ & Comd^{rs} in Chief were, by the s^{d} Acts, lyable to.

The Act of Parliam^{t} for ascertaining the Rates of *Foreign Coins*† in her Ma^{ys} Plant^{as} in America, recites that, for remedying the Inconveniencys which had arisen from the different Rates, at which the same Species of *Foreign Silver Coins* did pass in her Ma$^{ty's}$ sev^{l} Colonys & Plant^{as} in America, her Ma^{ty} had issued her Proclam^{n} of the 18th of June, 1704, to settle and ascertain the Currency of Foreign Coins, in the Manner & Words there following.

And further recites that, notwithstanding the s^{d} Proclamation, the same indirect Practices as had been therein mentioned, were still carryed on within some of the s^{d} Colonys or Plant^{as}, and the Mony

* "7th & 8th Will., 3^{ty} Anno 1695."

† "6th Annæ, Anno 1707."

thereby drawn from One Plant^{a} to ano^{r}, in Prejudice to the Trade of her Ma^{tys} Subjects;

Wherefore, for the better enforcing the due Execution of the s^{d} Proclamation, throughout all the s^{d} Colonys & Plant^{as}, & for the more effectual remedying the s^{d} Inconveniencys, thereby intended to be remedyed.

It was enacted, That, if any Person, within any of the s^{d} Colonys or Plant^{as}, as well those under Proprietors & Charters, as under her Ma^{tys}. imediate Comm^{n}. & Govm^{t}., sho^{d}, after 1 May, 1709, for the Discharge of any Contracts or Bargains, to be thereafter made, account, receive, take or pay, any of the sev^{l} Species of *Foreign Silver Coins*, men^{d} in the s^{d} recited Proclam^{a}., at any greater or higher Rate, than, at w^{ch}, the same was thereby regulated, settled & allowed to be acco^{ted}, reced, taken or pay^{d}, Every such Person, sho^{d} suffer 6 Months Imprisonment without Bail or Mainprize, any Law, Custom or Usage, in any of the said Colonys or Plant^{as} to the contrary, notwithstanding, & sho^{d} likewise, forfeit £10 for every such Offence, One Moyety to the Crown, the other Moiety to such Person as sho^{d} sue for the same, to be recovered, in Manner therein men^{d}.

Under a Proviso & Declar^{a}, that Nothing, in the recited Proclam^{a}, or in that act contained, sho^{d} extend, to compell any Person to receive any of the s^{d} Species of Foreign Silver Coins, at the respective Rates, in the s^{d} Proclam^{a} men^{d}.

And under, ano^{r} Proviso & Declar^{a}, That Nothing, in that act contained, sho^{d} extend, or be construed to restrain, her Ma^{ty}, from regulating and settling the sev^{l} Rates of the s^{d} Species of Foreign Silver Coins, within any of the s^{d} Colonys or Plant^{as}, in such other Manner, & according to such other Rates & Proportions, as her Ma^{ty}, by her Proclam^{a}, for that Purpose to be issued, sho^{d} from Time to Time, judge proper and necessary; Or, from giving her Royal Assent, to any Law, thereafter to be made, in any of the s^{d} Colonys or Plant^{as}, for settling & ascertaining the Current Rates of such Coins, within the said Colonys or Plant^{as}; But that, such further Regulations might be made, & such assent given, in as full & ample Manner, to all Intents & Purposes, as the same might have been done, in Case that Act had not been made, & no otherwise, any Thing, therein befere contain^{d}, to the contrary, notwithstanding.

It has been usual, in sundry of the Colonys, on the Continent in America, to print & issue Paper Bills of Credit, & to oblige Persons, (by acts passed there) to receive such Bills in Paym^{t}, at the Rate or Sum men^{d} in such Bills; and some such Bills have been issued by Acts of Assembly in Pensilvania.

In some Colonys, the Value of those Paper Bills of Credit, (being payable at distant Times, & the Fund not regularly apply^{d}) has miserably sunk, but that has not been the Case in Pensilv^{a} in particular.

About 1740, complaints were made to the House of Comons, of great

Quantitys of Paper Bills of Credit, or Paper Mony, issued in *some* of the American Colonys (not in Pensilv^a in particular) & of Mischiefs arising from the same; Whereupon, the House of Comons addrest the Crown, to issue Instructions & the Lords Justices did issue Circular Instructions to *all* the American Gov^t, as well, those acting imediately under his Ma^ty, as those, acting under Proprietors.

And the Instruction, then sent, to Coll. Thomas (who was then Deputy Govr of Pensilv^a) was in the following Words, vizt.

By the Lords Justices.

Additional Instruction, to George Thomas, Esqr., Dep^y Govr of his Ma^tys Province of Pensilv^a, in America, *Or, to the Comd'r in Chief of his Ma'tys s'd Province, for the time being.* Given at Whitehall, the 21st Day of Aug^st, 1740, in the 14th Year of his Ma^tys Reign.

Whereas, an Act of Parliam^t was passed, in the 6th Year of her late Ma^ty, Queen Anne, Entitled, An Act for ascertaining the Rates of Foreign Coins, in her Ma^tys Plant^as in America, and whereas Complaints have been made, that the s^d act has not been observed, as it ought to have been, in many of his Ma^tys Colonys & Plant^as in America; by Means whereof, many indirect Practices have grown np, & *various & illegal Currencies have been introduced*, in sev^l of the s^d Colonys & Plant^as, *contrary to the true Intent and Meaning of the said act*, & to the Prejudice of the Trade of his Ma^tys Subjects. In consequence of such Complaints, an humble Address was presented, the last Sessions, by the House of Comons, to his Ma^ty. "That he would be graciously pleased to require & comand, the "respective Gov^rs of his Colonys & Plant^as in America, *effectually* "*to observe the s'd Act of the 6th of Qu: Anne.*" It is, therefore, his Ma^tys Royal Will & Pleasure, and you are, hereby, strictly required & comanded, to take the most effectual Care, for the future, that the s^d act be punctually, & bona fide, observed, & put in Execu^n, according to the *true Intent* & Meaning thereof. And, to the End, that his Ma^tys Comands herein, may be fully made known, to all his subjects within Yo^r Govm^t, & that None of them may pretend Ignorance thereof, You are, hereby, further required, & comanded, to publish this Instruction, in such Manner, as may best answer his Ma^tys gracious Intentions, herein signified.

And Whereas many & great Inconveniencys have arisen, in some of his Ma^tys Colonys & Plant^as in America, by passing Laws, for striking Bills of Credit, & issuing out the same, in Lieu of Mony, making it Obligatory, on all Persons, to take such Bills, in Paym^t of Debts, Dues & Demands; *whereby the good Intention of the aforemen'd Act*, of the 6th of her late Ma^ty Queen Anne. "For as-"certaining the Rates of Foreign Coins in her Ma^tys Plant^as in "America" *has been frustrated*, & a great Discouragem^t has been

brot on the Comerce of the Kingdom, by occasioning a Confusion in Dealings, & a lessening of Credit, in those Parts. And whereas an humble Address was presented, the last Session, by the House of Comons, to his Maty to the effect following, vizt.

That he wod be graciously pleased, to require & comand, the respective Govr of his Matys Colonys & Plantas in America, not to give assent to, or pass any Act, whereby Bills of Credit may be struck, or issued, in Lieu of Mony, *without a clause be inserted, in such Act, declaring that the same shall not take Effect, until the s'd Act shall be approved by his Maty.*

It is, therefore, His Matys Will & Pleasure, & You are hereby required, *upon Pain of his Matys highest Displeasure*, not to give Yor Assent to, or pass *any Act*, whereby Bills of Credit may be issued, in Lieu of Mony, *without a Clause be inserted*, in such Act, declaring that the same shall *not take Effect*, until the sd Act shall be approved, by his Maty, his Heirs or Successors.

Since the sd Instr'n was given (to Coll. Thomas, but directed, as before stated) a new Lievt. Govr., Mr. Hamilton, has been apted for Pensilva, by the Proprietors, & approved by the Crown. (Anno 1748.)

The before mend particular additional Instrn, has not been repeatd to Mr. Hamilton, any otherwise than, as he is become, now, the Lt. Govr of Pensilva, for the Time being.

But, upon Mr. Hamilton's being approved for Lievt. Govr. the Crown issued its Genl Instrns, &, amongst other Things, ordered, that he shod take a solemn Oath, to do his utmost, that all the Clauses, Matters & Things, contained in the sd Act of the 6th of Qu: Anne, shod be punctually & bona fide observed, according to the true Intent & Meaning thereof,—Which Oath he accordingly took.

Besides this, on the Crown's approving Mr. Hamilton, it was, on the Part of the Crown, required of him, & his Suretys entred into a Bond, to his Maty, in £2000 Penalty, Conditioned (inter alia). "That if the sd James Hamilton shall, from Time to Time, & at all "Times hereafter, so long as he shall continue Lievt. Govr. of the sd "Province, observe, perform & obey, all such Directions & Instruc- "tions, wch now are, or shall at any Time be given, or sent to him, "by his Maty, his Heirs & Successors, or from any Person or Per- "sons, now acting, or that hereafter shall act, by authority from his "Maty, his Heirs & Successors, & *pursuant to*, & for the putting in "Execution, the sevl acts of *Trade & Navigation*, relating to the "Plantations," vizt.

An Act passed 12 Cars 2di, intitled An Act for the Encouraging & encreasing the Shipping & Navigation.

Here, a great many Acts of Parliamt are enumerated, and amongst them, An Act passed in the 6th Year of the sd Queen's Reign, Entituled, An Act for ascertaining the Rates of Foreign Coins, in her Matys Plantas in America, "& all other Acts of Parliamt, now in "Force, or that, hereafter, shall be made, relating to the Plantas "Trade; and shall do & perform all such Matters & Things, as the

"Gov^rs of his Ma^tys Plant^as, by any Act of Parliam^t made, or to be "made, shall be obliged, or enjoyned, to do & perform; and shall, "before his entring on the s^d Govm^t, take the Oaths, injoyned to be "taken by the Gov^rs & Comd^rs in Chief, of other his Ma^tys Colonys "& Plant^as, before their entring on their resp'ive Govm^ts, as directed "by the Act of the 7th & 8th Years of the late King Wm. herein "before men^d, &c. &c. &c., then to be void."

Matters standing thus, the People in Pensilv^a have apply'd to Mr. Hamilton, their Liev^t Govr, to pass a Law, for enlarging, or adding more to the sum, wch they, at present, have standing out in Paper Mony, or Bills of Credit there.

He, supposing that a small sum to be added to their present Quantity, may not produce any great Inconveniencys, wo^d consent to an act, for that purpose, provided they insert the *Suspending Clause*, that the act shall have no Force, until confirmed by the Crown.

But they insist on passing the act, *without any such suspending clause.* Which he declines doing.

As conceiving the Matter of *Mony*, of *any* Sort or Kind, to be, in its Nature, Part of the *Prerogative* or *Sovereignty* of the Crown, & that he is bound, by the Instrn, wch was given by the Lords Justices in 1740, to Coll. Thomas, or to the Comd^r in Chief, in Pensilv^a, *for the Time being*, & by his before mentioned Oath & Bond, & by the Duty of his Office, to observe that Instruction, & not to pass any act, whereby Bills of Credit may be issued, in Lieu of Mony, *without inserting the suspending clause*, and that it wo^d be neither lawful or safe, but an offence in him to pass any such act, without that Suspending Clause.

On the other Hand, The People insist, on the Powers, granted by the Charter, for passing *all* Laws *whatsoever*, as giving very ample authority to him, to pass the Law wch they desire; & that the Crown, having granted away such very full Powers, can not, even upon an Address from the House of Comons, resume them again, or add further Limitations or Restrictions, than what are contained in the Charter; and, therefore, seem to think, that altho his Ma^ty might issue such Instrns, to *his own* imediate Gov^rs, where there are no Charters, yet, that in Pensilvania, where such a Charter subsists, such Instrn had no Force, even upon Coll. Thomas himself, (to whom the same was *imediately* directed) during *his* Govm^t, & more clearly so, in the Case of the present Govr. Mr. Hamilton, to whom the same add^l Instruction has not been given, any otherwise, than as he is, now, become Govr of Pensilvania for the Time being.

Mr. Hamilton is desirous to oblige the People herein, if he may legally & safely do so.

And Your Opinion is desired,

Qu.—Whether Mr. Hamilton, L^t. Govr of Pensilvania, may legally & safely, & without committing any Offence, or Breach of

his Oath or Bond, or of his Duty to the King, pass, & give his assent to an Act of Assembly, whereby Bills of Credit may be issued, in Pensilv[a], in Lieu of Mony, without the suspending clause, before mentioned, being inserted therein?

I am of opinion it is by no means safe or advisabl, or consistent with his Duty to pass such Bills without a Suspending Clause.

D. RYDER.

30 Nov[r]. 1753.

King's Instructions to T. and R. Penn, 1753.

GEORGE R.

Additional Instruction to Our Trusty and Wellbeloved Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, Esq[rs]., Proprietaries and Governors of Our Province of Pennsylvania in America, or to the Commander in chief of Our said Province for the time being. Given at Our Court at St. James's, the 18th day of December, 1753, In the twenty-seventh Year of Our Reign

Whereas, it hath been represented unto Us, that the method prescribed by the Instructions heretofore given by Us to the Governors of Our Colonies and Plantations in America, relative to Appeals from the Courts in cases of Error, has, by subsequent regulations which have been from time to time made by us in Our Privy Council relative to such Appeals, become defective and improper; For remedy thereof for the future, It is Our Royal Will & Pleasure, that you or the Commander in chief of Our Province of Pennsylvania for the time being, do permit and allow Appeals from any of the Courts of common Law in Our said Province unto you or the Commander in chief and the Council of Our said Province; and you are for that purpose to issue a Writ in the manner which has been usually accustom'd, returnable before yourselves and the Council of Our said Province, who are to proceed to hear and determine such Appeal, wherein such of Our said Council as shall be at that time Judges of the Court from whence such Appeal shall be so made to you Our Governors, &c., &c., Or to the Commander in chief for the time being, and to Our said Council as aforesaid shall not be admitted to vote upon the said Appeal; but they may nevertheless be present at the hearing thereof, to give the Reasons of the Judgment given by them in the Causes wherein such Appeal shall be made. Provided nevertheless, that in all such Appeals, the Sum or Value appealed for do exceeed the Sum of three hundred Pounds Sterling, and that Security be first duly given by the Appellant to answer such Charges as shall be awarded in case the first Sentence be affirmed. And if either Party shall not rest satisfied with the Judgment of You or the Commander in chief for the time being and of

Our Council as aforesaid, Our Will and Pleasure is, that such Party may then appeal unto Us in Our Privy Council; Provided, the sum or Value so appeal'd for unto Us do exceed five hundred pounds sterling, and that such Appeal be made within fourteen days after Sentence, and good Security given by the Appellant, that he will effectually prosecute the same and answer the Condemnation, and also pay such Costs and Damages as shall be awarded by Us, in case the Sentence of You or the Commander in chief for the time being and of Our Council be affirmed. Provided nevertheless, that where the Matter in question relates to the taking or demanding any Duty payable to Us, or to any Fee of Office or annual Rent, or other such like matter or thing, where the Rights in future may be bound, in all such Cases you are to admit an Appeal to Us in Our Privy Council, altho' the immediate Sum or Value appealed for be of less Value. And it is Our further Will and Pleasure, that in all Cases where by your Instructions you are to admit Appeals to Us in Our Privy Council, Execution be suspended untill the final Determination of such Appeals, unless good and sufficient Security be given by the Appellee to make ample Restitution of all that the Appellant shall have lost by means of such Judgment or Decree; in case, upon the Determination of such Appeal, such Decree or Judgment should be reversed, and restitution awarded to the Appellant.

G. R.

Indorsed.—Additional Instruction to Thomas & Rich^d^. Penn, Esq^rs^., Proprietaries & Gov^rs^. of Pensylvania, relative to Appeals from Courts, in Cases of Error. Decem^r^. 18th, 1753.

Answer of Thos. & Richard Penn, to H. R., 1753.

Gentlemen:

The true and real Interest of the People whom You represent, is, as it ought to be, the principal Object of Our Concern, wee shall on all occasions shew them, that We have it constantly in view. Wee will use our utmost endeavours to procure it, at the expense of our own private Fortunes, whenever it appears to Us necessary, and, in considering the Matter of your Representation, shall endeavour to act such a part, as would be thought just by Persons wholly disinterested, both with Regard to Us, and Them.

That the Representatives of the People, are not so disinterested, seems most certain, Wherefore, supposing they saw this Matter in a Light, very different from that; in which it appears to us, and that they were not actuated by any Inclination on the One Hand to oppose Our Interests, or on the Other, to influence the Weaker part of the Electors, by appearing Zealous for Theirs, (which We would Trust and hope, is the Case,) Yet, We may continue to differ in Sen-

timents from them, on the Necessity of the desired Assistance, without being lyable to any Imputation of neglecting the Interest of the Province, in the Opinion of the World.

After We had ordered Our Governor to give you the answer, which he did, to your former Application, we had no reason to expect a Repetition of the Application, directly to Ourselves, as you might well suppose. We had considered the Matter, before we had returned Our first Answer, and the repeating the Request, could only produce The repeating the Answer; The Occasion for which, does not appear to us; It is possible, that one purpose may be, in order to shew more publickly, this Difference in Opinion, between Us and Yourselves; And if that was ever intended, it will be convenient, that We should set this Matter in a clear Light, (altho' it may make Our Answer longer than We could wish,) that the true State of the Matter, may appear. Wee did not speak our own Sentiments only, when We before said, We were under no greater obligation to contribute to the Public Charges, than any Chief Governor of another Colony. That was the Opinion of the Lords of Trade, when upon an Application made to the King, by many considerable Inhabitants of the Province, that he would be pleased to give some Orders for their Defence. The Council employed by the Agent of the House of Representatives, insisted, that if any such preparations were necessary, the Proprietors ought to be at the expense of them. But their Lordships declared it their Opinion, That We were not obliged to be at any Expence of that Nature, more than any other Governor in Chief, of the King's Colonys.

Wee are sensible, that our Honoured Father in the First Settlement of the Province, and at all Times after, was strictly careful to do justice to the Indians, and purchased Land from them before it was settled; but, We believe, always at his own charge. At least, We do not find a single Instance, of a purchase having been made at the Expence of the People. So that what share they had in such purchases, We are at a loss to know, Other than the Benefits and Conveniences, which arose from the mutual Exchange of Friendly Offices, with the Natives. Had the necessary Publick Charges amounted to more than the Revenue of the Province, and a General Tax been laid on the People, to defray the same, There might then have been some Colour to desire that We should contribute. But, as no such tax has, for very many Years, been, or need to be lay'd, and the Charge of Government amounts to little more than the One Half of the Common and Ordinary Revenue; the pressing thus unseasonably for our Contribution, appears we conceive, as an attempt to induce the weakest of the People to imagine Yourselves to have an uncommon Regard to their Interests, and to be therefore the most proper Persons to be continued as their Representatives, and the matters which might the rather, induce Us so to think, are the Solemn Repetition of this Request, and treating it as if it

was a Matter of great Value and consequence The time of making your last Representation just before an Election, and the printing the Report, and most extraordinary Resolutions, which were the foundation of such Your Representation in your votes long before your Address, could by any possibility, come to our Hands; which are such Matters as could not escape Our Observation, and which would almost persuade Us, that it was intended as an Address to the people, rather than to Us.

Wherefore, on this Occasion, it is necessary that we should inform the people, through Yourselves, their Representatives, That, as by the Constitution, Our Consent is necessary to their Laws, at the same Time that they have an undoubted right to such as are necessary for the Defence and Real Service of the Country, so it will tend the the better to facilitate the several Matters, which must be transacted with Us, for their Representatives to shew a Regard to Us, and Our Interest; For, considering the Rank which the Crown has been pleased to give Us in Pensilvania, We shall expect from the People's Representatives on all occasions, a Treatment suitable thereto, and that, whilst We desire to govern the province according to Law only, They should be as careful to support Our Interests, As We shall always be to support Theirs.

Wee are truly concerned, that you lay Us under the necessity of acquainting the publick with the State of the Revenue of the Province. You have in part done it already, by acknowledging the amount of the Excise to be Three thousand pounds a year. The Interest of the Paper Money, as we conceive is more than that sum, which makes the Common Revenue of the Province above Six thousand Pounds a Year. The annual Expence of Government, for a series of Years, (including Indian Charges,) amounts to little more than Half that Sum. The Interest is paid by People, who, no doubt, find greater advantage in the use of the Money, than the Interest they pay for it, Otherwise they would not be so sollicitous to be admitted to borrow, as they always have been. That Interest Money, therefore, cannot, with any propriety be called a Tax, laid on the Province, or a Burthen on the Inhabitants. The Excise itself, is not a general Tax, to which all the Inhabitants must contribute, as it is paid by such only, who buy Wine and Spirituous Liquors, under certain quantitys, So that many People pay nothing of that Tax. Of all this Revenue, about four hundred pounds a year, has, on an Average, for Twenty Years past, (and great part of that time, during War,) been expended in presents to the Indians, and Charges on their Account, which we cannot conceive to be a Large Sum in proportion to the Revenue of the Province, for so great and important a Service, as that of keeping the United Nations of Indians in the Interest of Great Britain. We believe every disinterested person will think the Sum very small, and, from the Manner of its being raised, not at all, burthensome to the People; besides which,

had not half that Money been expended on those Accounts, it's most certain, all the same Excise would have been paid.

The whole Sum paid in Twenty years for Indian Services, is not more than on a common Computation, Our Family has paid in the same time for Dutys and Excises here, for the Support of His Majesty's Government; and which We choose to mention, in Answer to that part of Your Representation, wherein you unadvisedly publish to the World that Our Estate in America, is exempt from the Burthens, borne by our fellow Subjects in Great Britain; such Matter might, much more properly have been avoided; And, at the same time that We shew you, that We do pay all other Taxes here, that on Land only excepted, We must advise you to be very careful, not to put People here in mind of that single Exemption; Several proposals have been made for Laying Taxes on North America, and its most easy to foresee, that the Self same Act of Parliament, that shall lay them on Our, will also lay them on Your Estates, and on those of your Constituents.

We cannot allow that you have always paid Your Interpreter to his Satisfaction, because We know, We have charged Ourselves with Gratifications to him, when the Assembly have refused to pay him, what he thought his Services deserved, and We make no doubt he can remember such Instances. However, with Respect to any Expences of that Sort, and many others here, We entered into them, without any Expectation of being repaid, and should think it far beneath us, to send the accounts of them to the House of Representatives as your Agent, employed by Yourselves might do, for the Expences incurred by him. What we might reasonably expect is, a thankful acceptance of Our Endeavours to serve the Publick; And, if you do not think proper to make even that Return, We shall nevertheless, be fully satisfied with the consciousness of having rendered the Province all the Services in Our power.

We do not conceive that any Act of Assembly, does, or can establish what you call a Monopoly in Us, for the purchase of Lands; We derive no Right or Property, from any such Law. It is under the King's Royal Charter, that We have the Sole Right to make such purchases; and it is under that same Charter, that every Settler has a Right through Us, to the Estate he possesses in the Province. The Act itself, which you seem to allude to, acknowledges this Right to be so granted to us by the Charter, and is only declaratory thereof to the People; advertizing them of a certain Truth, that they are Lyable according to the Laws of Great Britain, to Penaltys for contravening such Right.

Your assertion that Treatys for Land, are made at a less Expence to Us, on account of Provincial presents being given at the same time, does not appear to us to be founded on fact. The last purchase was made on no other Account, but purely to save the Province the Expence of making another present, to some Indians who came down after the Time that the principal Deputation had received

the presents intended for the whole, and were on their Return back; and the Land was bought very dear on that account; Other Treatys for Land have been made, when Provincial Presents have not been given; and We do not, or ever did desire, that the Inhabitants should bear any part of the Expence of the Indians who come down solely at our Request, to consent to the Sale of Lands, unless they stay on other public Business also; and whenever they have come down on both accounts, We are sensible the Expence has been divided in a Manner, very favourable to the Publick.

We are far from desiring to avoid contributing to any publick Expence, which it's reasonable We should bear a part of, altho' Our Estate is not by Law, Lyable to be taxed; As we already have been So, We doubt not, We always shall be, at a far greater Expence in attending the Affairs of the Province, than Our Estate could be taxed at, if All the Estates in the Province were rated to the Public Charges, which would be the only fair way of establishing a proportion. If we were willing to consent to any such Matter, The Value of our Estate, and of all the Estates of all the Inhabitants ought to be considered, and the whole Expence proportionably Laid upon the whole Value; In which Case, you would find, that the Expence, which We voluntarily submit to out of affection to the Inhabitants, is much more, than such our proportion so Layd, would amount to; Besides these General Expences, the first of Us sent Cannon, at his own Charge, to the amount of about four hundred pounds Sterling, for the defence of our City of Philadelphia, neglected by a late House of Representatives; which alone, is such a Sum as the proportion of a tax on Our Estate, would not in many years amount to. And, as this is the Case, We are not disposed to enter into any Agreement with the House of Representatives, for payment of any particular proportion of Indian or other Publick Expenses, but shall leave it to them, (to whom it of Right belongs,) to provide for such Expences, as they shall judge necessary for the Public Service.

As you desire to appear willing, on your parts, to ease Your Constituents of a small part of the Indian Expence by throwing it upon Us, We shall, on Our part, and hereby do, recommend it to you to give them a real and far greater Relief, by taking off a large Share of that only Tax which is borne by them. As the General Expence amounts to little more than Three thousand pounds a year, We conceive it may very well be provided for out of the Interest of the Paper Money and one half of the present Excise, Especially if We shall be induced from the State of your Trade (which We expect soon to receive) to consent to an Encrease of Your Paper Currency. This would ease the Inhabitants of about fifteen hundred pounds a Year, which would be felt by many of them when they would not be sensible of the Trifle you propose We should contribute to the Publick Expences. We have directed the Governor to Consent to such a Law when you shall think fit to present it to him.

As We shall ever in the first place endeavour to promote the Real Interests of the Good People of Pennsylvania, We make no Doubt of preserving an Union and Harmony between Us & Them, unless Men of warm or uneasy Spirits should unhappily procure themselves to be elected for Representatives, and should, for the supporting of their own private views or Interests, influence their Brethren, otherwise honest and well designing, to espouse their cause; In such Case, indeed, Disputes may arise wherein we shall engage with the utmost Reluctance. But even then, as We shall make the General Good the Rule of our Actions, We shall on all such Occasions, if ever they should happen, steadily, and without wavering, pursue Measures the most likely to conduce to that good End.

The Representatives being annually chosen, We are aware that We are not writing now to the same Persons who sent the Representations to Us; The Persons most forward to push on a Measure, (which, from the Answer We directed Our Governor to give to the former Application he was desired to make to Us, must be supposed disagreeable,) May not now be in the House, but may be succeeded by more prudent Persons returned to their Places, who would be careful not to press a Matter too far in which the Rights of the People are not really concerned; However, the answer We give, must be to the Representation sent Us. And we desire, in any Matter of the like Nature, that the House will be satisfied with such an answer as the Governor may have Orders to give on Our Behalf.

THO. PENN,
RICHD. PENN.*

Indorsed.—The Proprietor's answer to the representations to the House of Representatives.

Gov'r. Hamilton to Gov. Sharpe—Indian Affairs, 1754.

Sir,

Your Letter of the 27th by Express, was delivered to me yesterday, in the afternoon. The Messages that have Passed between the House and me, will shew, that I have small hopes of bringing matters with them, to any favourable Issue, which Gives me abundance of

* There is no date to the foregoing, it was found among the papers of this year, and by the votes of Assembly, Vol. IV., pp. 362, 368, it appears to have been laid before the House, May 23, 1753. It is there printed in Sections of two or three paragraphs, with their appropriate answers, by the House. It appears to be an answer to a representation from the Assembly to the Proprietaries in 1751. Not being then "made public," the House now order the Report of the Committee of Asembly, made May, 1753, and the Proprietaries answer, to be all printed, Dec. 31, 1754, which is done in paragraphs as aforesaid.

Concern, as well because Nothing will be done by this Province adequate to its Riches and Number of Inhabitants, as that their Example may be of bad Consequences to the Neighbouring Province of New Jersey who are but too much Influenced by the Politicians here.

An act Passed at the last Sessions of the Lower County Assembly, Granting a thousand Pounds for the Kings use, which is at my disposal, in conjunction with Mr. Benjamin Chew, the Speaker of that Assembly, and this Assembly I am told have now voted the Sum of £5000 for Provisions & Carriages, &c., and have put it into the hands of Five of their own Members.

Scrrroyady or Monecotootha who Succeeds the Half King in the direction of affairs at Auckquick, Passed by this City in his way to Onondago and seems Sincerely Attached to the English Interest.

He was desired by all the Indians in those Parts to undertake this Journey, in Order to find out the true disposition and designs of the Six Nations, and to receive their advice. He likewise is charged with a Message from the Governor of Virginia, inviting them in the Kings Name, to send their Deputies to Winchester in the spring, in Order to have a Conference with them on the Situation of affairs. He said that if he had the Concurrence of Maryland and this Province in that Invitation, it would add much to the weight of it & Solicited that he undertake for Maryland & Join them in one Belt with us to press the Six Nations to Accept the Invitation. I took it into consideration with the Council, and as it was asked so very Affectionately by Scarroyady & might very much aid his Majesty's Cause at this time with the six Nations, I Consented to his request & gave a Belt in Our Joint names, to Enforce the Virginia Invitation, and I hope that tho' it was a piece of Presumption in me & which I had no right to do yet I shall receive your approbation from the great Service it was apprehended Such an Union would be of to the Common Cause.

I observe what you say of Mr Croghan, & tho' the severall matters of which you have receivd Information, carry in them a good deal of Suspicion, and it may be highly necessary to keep a watchfull Eye upon him, yet I hope they will not turn out to be any thing very Material, or that will effect his faithfulness to the trust reposed in him, which at this time is of Great importance and a very Considerable one. At Present I have no one to Enquire of as to the truth of the Particulars mentioned in yours, but Mr. Peters who assures me that Mr. Croghan has never been deemed a Roman Catholick, nor does he believe that he is one, tho' he knows not his Education which was in Dublin, nor his Religious Profession.

He further informs me that there is one Francis Campbell, a Storekeeper at Shippensburg who was bred for the Church as he has heard among the Roman Catholicks, but he has the Character of an honest, inoffensive man and it is not likely that he Either Concerns himself with the French or can be the Person mentioned to reside at Auck-

quick; he rather thinks it is another Campbell, an old man, one of the Lowest Sort of Indian Traders who is often with the Indians & was suspected of leaning to the French and of having been with them and as Such represented by Mr. Croghan to the Commissioners then at Carlisle. This man may go to & fro & be much with the Indians at Auckquick & Elsewhere, but he does not believe that Mr. Croghan has any Connection with him.

Mr. Peters further informs me that Mr. Croghan sent a Coppy to the late Governor of Mr. Stobos' two letters directed to Col[l]. Innes, Appollogiseing for haveing Opened them, and Alledging that he was Constrained to do it by the Indians who Insisted on seeing the Contents, and that Mr. Croghan had since blamed himself exceedingly for his Indescretion, but Mr. Peters does not believe it was Perfidiously done. Moses, a Mohock Indian who was one of the Messengers employed by Captain Stobo, is an Adopted Brother of Mr. Weisar to whom I shall write and desire him with Prudence to sift out the truth, both with respect to keeping back the reward ordered to the Messengers, and Likewise, the reason of Mr. Croghan's stopping the Indians from going to Willses Creek, if they were really stopt by him.

The Pender Grass you mention, is known to Mr. Peters, who says he kept a Publick house at Raystown, is a little addicted to drink, but knows the Woods Extreamely well, and might Serve for want of a better, in the Capacity of a Guide: he is often at the Camp at Willses Creek, and may be there spoken with; however, I shall take care to have him made Acquainted with the matter and direct him to wait upon you.

I send you the examination of a French deserter, giving an account of the arrival of a large body of regular troops in six men of war at Quebec, the last fall, and of their proceeding to the Lower fort on the Ohio; it is probable that this account of the French numbers may be exaggerated, but it seems pretty certain that their force is considerably increased, which should induce the several assemblys to act with more vigor, but it has not had that effect upon our people, who, you will see, are very inclinable to disbelieve it. I have sent this intelligence to the secretary of state by several ways, and am in hopes the government at home will either augment the force they have destined for this service, or fall upon some method of uniting the Colonys for their common defence, as the Assemblys in general seem quite insensible of their danger.

Philad[a], Jan[ry] 7th, 1754.

Daniel Claus to Gov. Hamilton, 1754.

Mount Johnson, January 10th, 1754.

May it please your Honour—

I take the Freedom to address my Humble Respects to your Honour, with these Lines, after having been made sensible you would accept of a Letter by me, which, according to Duty, I would have done soon after my arrival could, I have flattered myself your Honour would think me Capable enough in Undertaking it.

Doubtless your Honour will have been informed of my Living at Present with the Hono^ble William Johnson, & that since the Time my Ind^n Landlord ruined himself by marriage, & was forced to leave his place & move 20 miles higher, when above s^d Gentleman generously offered me his Lodging, & in Order not to be Looser of the Ind^n Language, confided the Keys of his Store in me, to see the Way of Ind^n Trade, & in short, introduces me to all affairs necessary & advantageus to my Employ, & although s^d Gentle^n these several years pass'd resign'd the management of Ind^n affairs for this Province, Nevertheless, all the 6 Nations carry their Belts & News to his House, & will by no means extinguish their Counsel fire at his house, nor will they see or hear of the 14 Commissioners of Ind^n affairs appointed at Newyork, Albany & Skeneghdady, at the mean while he suffers, to my Surprize, a vast deal of Trouble and Charges, when the others sit quietly at Home & mind not to send any message at all to them, where they but receive their Pay; Which, therefore, makes the Indians have such an ill opinion of all the afores^d People, that I dare say, if Coll. Johnson should neglect or take no Notice of them, the would be already in the French Interest, as they made it sundry Times sensible to him, how little they was Noticed by their Bretheren the English, that they would sometime or other be forced to seek Shelter somewhere else.

Coll. Johnson, few Weeks ago, enquired of some of the Chiefest Sachims of the 6 Nations their meaning or resolution about the present Situation of affairs at Ohio, after a little Consideration, they answered, that they seeing the French as an underprizing People, go on in such a manner as they did last Summer, without any Resistance of the English, was to confess the Truth quite afread of them, & therefore sitting quite Neuter, and hanging their Heads, but if they once should see the English rise up & make Resistance, they could be sure, all the Nations chearfully would Join them, & doubtless prostrate the Designs of the French, being much more inclined to live under the Protection of the English then the French, as they most more fear than love them; Severals of the 6 Nations desired Coll. Johnson to write to the Head Men over the great Sea, that they might provide them with forts & ministers in some of their Castles, in Order to keep off the Frenches often passing back & forwards, & imbibing them all the Sweetest Things to bring em over, & at the

same time was trying to make them believe the English were such a bad Sort of People, that one Time or other having them in their Power would certainly knock them in the Head.

I did not think it improper of inclosing your Honour a Copy of an affidavit, given by a New England young Man, who was 7 Years a French Prissoner, when in October last in Comming back with the French Army from Ohio, he took his Opportunity in going by Osswego & deserted into the Fort, from whence he came among the Inhabitants in Order to Work till he could come home, and when Coll. Johnson had Intelligence of it he called him to his House & took the Inclosed Deposition of him.

I have at Present Nothing else to acquaint your Honour with, but Recommend me to your Favour to the future, and am with my humble Respects,

May it please your Honour,
Your most obedient, humble Servt.
DAN. CLAUS.

P. S.—Coll. Johnson is at present in Newyork, & will stay there a Couple of Weeks.

Indorsed—18th January, 1754, Mr. Claus's Letter to the Governor.

John S. Hawkins to Joseph Combes, 1754.

Sir—

I & my Father has Sent Several times to you to Come down & Pay the Rent of the Place were you now live on, but Insted of Ever Comming or Sending a Civel Answer, you have said You would hold it under Pensilvania Rights, & would Pay no Rent, In Particular I sent by Mr. Peter Butler, but all in Vain, the next time I shall Come my self, which will be in Little time, & unless you Either Come or send the Rent before, you may Depend I will take Forceable Entry by a Jury, & will have Satisfaction for The Rent, & assure you that you shant Live on the Plantation any Longer for your Insolent Behaviour, from

JNO. STONE HAWKINS.

Frederick Town, Jan. 29th, 1754.

Directed—

"To Mr. Joseph Coombes,
"at Tanolaways.
"℘ Ralf Matson."

Indorsed—"Joseph Coombs, at Conolloways. Delivered May, 1755."

George Croghan to R. Peters, 1754.

Feby 3^{d}, 1753.

S^{r},

Pershuant to y^{r} orders, I have wrote ye Governor in Large all ye News I Could hear to be Depended on, and given him a full Acount of our Proceeding hear, att Logstown, which I hope will be agreeable to his honour. You Desired I might Lett you know what ye Indians Expected of ye Government, and I ashure you they Expect a Treading house & to be Suply'd with Neceserys to Cary on ye war against ye French, Butt I Supose if ye government wold Build a Strong Log'd house & Stockead itt Round, itt wold Do, which wold Nott Cost a great Dale, and I think ye Treaders Should be all Call'd there to Live and be Lay^{d} under some Regulation, and then ye Number of Treaders who getts thire Bread by ye tread wold be able to Defend that house with ye Asistance of ye Indians, which, I am of opinion, we may Depend on, if we asist them. I shall be att my house, att Aughick, by ye 20th of this Month, and I hear Inclose my Acount for Carring ye goods, which if ye Asembly will Plese to alow ye Plese to send me by M^{r}. Androw Montour. I have been att a great Loss by bring out those goods, in Loosing horses, and att Great Expence hear Purchesing Provisions, which I hope ye will menshon to ye Assembly, and Lett them Inquier of M^{r}. Montour How Expensiff itt is to transact Publick Business hear. The Assembly stopt £50 out of one of my former Acounts, and £30 out of ye Last, which M^{r}. Noris Promised to befrend me in getting. Plese make my Compliments to M^{r}. Norris and M^{r}. Frankland. If I hear any News During my stay hear, I will send it to his honour as soon as I go to Aughick.

I am, S^{r},

y^{r} most humble Servant,

GEO: CROGHAN.

P. S.—Plese to Lett his honour know that Lewes Montour has behaved himself very well sence he Came up from Philadelphia, and I must acknowledge to his honour that I think Now I was Rong in what I menshion^{d} of him to his honour. M^{r}. Patten, to my opinion, is very much Bigotted of himself; he and Androw Montour Dose nott agree well. If there Can't be a stop putt to Liquors Coming to ye Woods, No Man Can pretent to Do any Publick Business hear for ye Government.

Directed—
"To Richard Peters, Esqr.,
"in Philadelphia.
"P Feavor of M^{r}. Andrew Montour."

* Indorsed—1754.

George Croghan to Gov. H., 1754.

Feby 3^d, 1753,
Suppos'd to be 1754.

May itt Plese your Houour,

By M^r. Androw Montour and M^r. John Patten I have sent y^r honour a Copey of all our Proceedings att Logstown, all ye News I Could hear worth menshoning to y^r honour I have Wrote, your honour will see By ye Indians' Speeches, that they are in high Sperets and very Willing to Defend themselves from the Enemy, Provided the English Goverments, whome they Depend upon, will asist them, they Expect y^r honour will Imeadiettly order a house Bult to keep Nesesereys in to Enable them to Carrey on a warr against thire Enemy, who has unready Invaided thire Cuntry. Your honour will see by ye Indians' Speech, that a part of that Speech sent y^r honour By Lewes Montour must have been forg^d by those that wrote the Speech M^r. Montour and myself brought. Joseph Campble, who was ye Interpreter of that Speech, and the Indians face to face when ye half king proved that there was Nott a word of giveing up thire Lands, to pay ye Treaders' Debts menshoned. There is another Man, one John Davison, who talks a Litle of ye Indian Languidge, and makes a great Deal of Disturbance. I hope y^r honour will order such Persons outt of ye Wood, for they Really Do a Great Dale of Mischeff.

M^r. Montour and I are boath of opinion that if y^r Honour should thing Proper to build a Treading house that the Treaders should all be Call^d together att that plese and Lay^d under some Regulations, which wold be a Mains of securing ye Tread, and there ye Indians Could be well suply^d and the Treaders Run no Resque of being Taken by ye French. The Indians all Intend, as soon as y^r honour and the Governer of Verginia begins to Build, to gether all thire Warrers to ye Pleaces where y^l Build, and Nott suffer ye French to Come Down ye River, as for what French is amongst them unready, as soon as they hear of ye army Coming Down, they say they will secure them. I would aweated on y^r honour in Company with M^r. Mountour and M^r. Patten, Butt that M^r. Trent is Just Come outt with ye Verginia goods, and has brought a quantity of Toules and workmen to begin a fort, and as he Can't talk ye Indian Languidge, I am oblig^d to stay and asist him in Delivering them goods, which is M^r. Montour's advice, Butt I hope to be att my house att Aughick, by ye 20th of this Instant, where I shall be glad to hear y^r honour's answer to the Indians, as Mr. Montour is obliged to go to ye Six Nations on a Message from ye Governor of Verginia.

May it please ye honour I have Reserved a part of ye goods Left in my hands, by ye honour's Commissioners, for this Reson, that ye Shannas att ye Lower Shanna town has gott no part of this Present, as they are Likely to be Struck by ye French, and Othaways Down

there: itt is Mr. Montour's and my opinion that there should be one hundred pounds Worth More of goods aded to what is in my hands, and sent to them, if ye honour Aproves of this, as there is no posebility of sending those things att this Time of ye year from Philadelphia: ye Ohio Company has a quantity of goods hear which they wo'ld sell at first Cost, if ye honour will Send a person to purchess them with Cash, which will save ye Expence of Carridge to ye Government.

I am yr honour's Most obedient
and most Humble Servant,
GEO. CROGHAN.

Indorsed.
Ffebry 30, 1754, George Croghan.

GOVERNOR HAMILTON TO GOVERNOR OF CONNECTICUT, 1754.

Copy.

Sir:

I have received Information that a Party of your Inhabitants did some time ago pass thro the remote Parts of this Province, on their Way to Wyomink, upon Sasquehannah River, and gave out that they had made a Purchase of those Lands from the Mohòck Indians, and they had your Authority to come and settle them, being included within the Boundaries of the Connecticut Charter, and offered their Titles to any who were disposed to purchase; and this, tho I have disregarded it as an idle Story is now confirmed by Persons of Character, who have been in Connecticut, and assure me that a large Number of your Inhabitants, tho without the Countenance or Knowledge of the Government, were actually preparing to remove in the Spring and settle some of the Pennsylvania Lands on Sasquehannah, depending on their Indian Title, and not designing to pay any Regard to the Rights of our Proprietaries, or apply to this Government for their Leave and Authority.

Tho I can scarce perswade myself that any considerable Number would engage in so rash and unjust a Proceeding, yet as it may be true, tho highly improbable, I find myself obliged to communicate to your Honour these Informations, and entreat You would be pleased to do all in your Power to prevent these People from putting their Design in Execution, assured as I am, that if they make the Attempt they will involve this Province in an endless Scene of Trouble and Confusion, and as they must expect Opposition, it may prove prejudicial to the Cause of the Colonies; If, as it is very probable We shall be engaged in a War to repel the French, who have actually invaded this Province, and are now erecting Forts and driving away our Traders within its Limits, a Number of Strangers should come

amongst Us and forcibly take Possession of our Lands, what can his Majesty or the other Colonies think but that they are Enemies to their Country, and design to hinder this Government from exerting its Force against the common Enemy, by raising a civil War within its Bowels.

I beseech your Honour further to consider, that the Six Nations will be highly offended if these Lands on Sasquehannah be overrun with White People, for they are their favourite Lands and reserved for their Hunting, and many of them live there, and they have the Faith of this Government, solemnly and repeatedly plighted, that no White People shall settle there, and if notwithstanding these publick Engagements they shoud now be settled, I will not answer for the Consequences, they may not only turn their Arms against the Settlers but withdraw themselves from our Alliance, which might at this time prove the Ruin of our Affairs, and involve the Colonies in endless Bloodshed and Expence.

I cannot conceive how the Inhabitants of Connecticut, whose Laws as well as Ours, prohibit and render invalid all private Contracts with the Natives, could go in so clandestine a manner to treat with the Mohocks about these Lands, surely they are Worthy of much Censure on many Accounts, but at this time it is peculiarly unfortunate, as it may create a Difference between the Mohocks and the Rest of the Six Nations, between whom there is an Agreement that the Mohocks shall have nothing to do with the Lands in Pennsylvania, nor take any Part of the Presents received for them, because they have already had more than their Share for other Lands, and therefore the Mohocks never come here on Treaties for Land.

But why will your Inhabitants chuse such a disorderly and dangerous Way of obtaining the Possession of Lands when they may have a legal Settlement. There is a large Extent of Country in the Western Parts of this Province, and That of Virginia vacant, and some of the best Lands in North America. If, therefore, any considerable Number of Families want to remove and are minded to settle these Lands, I make no doubt but our Proprietaries will be glad to give them good Encouragement, and if they incline that I shall write in their favour, I will cheerfully do it at your Instance, and press them to return a speedy Answer, which may arrive here time enough for the Planters to go and view these Western Parts in the Winter, and prepare, if they find them agreeable, for their Removal as early as the Season in the Spring will permit.

Or if the Lands of Virginia shall be found more agreeable, I will recommend them to that Government who have lately made a Law for the Encouragement of New Settlers, and Both Governments will not fail to obtain for them the Friendship and kind Assistances of the Indians in those Parts, in whichsoever of the Two they shall chuse to settle.

Shoud any of your Inhabitants be desirous to enquire of our Constitution and the Quality of the Lands in the uncultivated Parts

of the Province, they will receive an impartial Account of them from the Gentleman who is charged with this Letter, who is a Member of Assembly and the Proprietary Surveyor over Sasquehannah, and well acquainted with the Lands not yet appropriated; for these Reasons I have prevailed upon him to take this Journey, that he might answer any Questions, and give Satisfaction in all Points necessary to be known in this matter, and I crave Leave to recommend him to your Honour as a Gentleman whose Relations may be received with the utmost Confidence in whatever he be desired to give an Account of.

I am perswaded your Honour will perceive the dangerous Consequences that must needs attend the Settlement of the Sasquehannah Lands by your People in the manner they propose, under the present Circumstances of Affairs, that it cannot fail to exasperate the Indians, raise a Civil War in the Province and distract the Government, at a time when all the Attention I am Master of may be wanted to conduct the momentous concerns of the Public, execute his Majesties Command and preserve the Colonies from falling a Prey to our Enemies. Suffer me then to repeat my Request, that You woud please to detain your People at home, and prevail with them to hearken to sober and moderate Counsels, which in the end will prove more to their Advantage. I am with sincere Esteem,

Your Honours
most obedient
humble Servant,
JAMES HAMILTON.

Philadelphia, 4th March, 1754.

To the Honourable Roger Wolcott, Esquire, Governor and Commander in Chief of His Majesties Province of Connecticut, at Windsor.

Read in Council, 12 March, 1754.

GOVERNOR HAMILTON'S LETTER TO THE DEPUTY GOV'R. OF CONNECTICUT.

Sir:

Hearing that a Number of the Inhabitants of Connecticut are preparing to come and settle some Lands in this province in a forcible manner, and being apprehensive that it may be of bad consequence at a Time when we may be probably be engaged in a War to repel the Hostile Attempts of the French, I have wrote a Letter to Governor Wolcott on this Subject, and take the freedom to enclose you a Copy of it, and request you will be pleased to give your Assistance in this Affair.

I have not the Honour of a Personal Acquaintance with you, yet I am told the people have a great Esteem for you, and Dependance

* See answer of T. Fitch, March 13, p.

on your Judgment, which, I flatter myself, will be favourable to this Application.

I should not doubt of Success if you would be pleased to join your influences with his Honour's in setting this matter in a true Light.

I beg leave to recommend the Gentleman who delivers this Letter to your notice and Civilities, who is well acquainted with our Constitution and the Quality of the vacant Lands within this Province, and well qualified to give your People satisfaction in any points they may want to know. I am with perfect Esteem and Regard,

Your Honour's
most Obedient
humble Servant,
JAMES HAMILTON.

Philadelphia,
4 March, 1754.
The Honorable Thomas Fitche, Esqr.

—

Examination of Mr. Patten, March 2, 1754.*

An Account of the Examination of M^r. Patten and M^r. Montour, by the Assembly, on the Governor's laying before the House the Grounds of his Assurance that the Invasion of the French is within the Limits of the Province, 6th March, 1754, in the afternoon.

First Question to M^r. Patten and M^r. Montour.

The Governor has laid before the House a Paper given by You Two, containing an account of the Road to Ohio. Did You give it, and Is it a true Account.

Answer. Patten thinks this was the Question, but does not remember it exactly, however, all the Answer was, Yes.

2^d Question. Do you know any more relating to this Affair of consequence, than what You have given in?

Answer. Patten answered, I do not remember any more that is of consequence at present. Here is my Map of the Road, I have now put into it a Table of the Trader's Computations as I took them from the Traders. I did not think it necessary to put it in at first, because You had my Journal.

3^d Question. Did You ever know that the Road to Ohio has been measured?

Answer. I do not, I believe it never was. Whenever it shall be measured, I believe it will be less than I have made it in my Map, for I am rather over than under.

4th Question. What Way did You take to know it?

Answer. No other Way than by the Eye.

The Speaker said he would not detain them longer, and asked the

*See Colon. Records, Vol. V. p. 750.

Members if they would be pleased to ask any more Questions. No more Questions being put, Mr. Montour and Mr. Patten withdrew.

Indorsed.

John Patten's Examination before the House, 6 March, 1754.

—

The Examination of a French Deserter, 1754.*

7th March, 1754.

Jean Baptiste Pidon, a French Deserter, being examined, says that he is a Lorrainer, born near Nancy; that he was a Desrter from the Army in Old France, but upon the Publication of a general Pardon from the King of France, he returned into the Service in 1750, and was sent to Canada the next Year and placed at Montreal. That in the Spring, 1753, Sixteen Hundred Men, Canadians and Regular Forces, of which he was one, were sent on an Expedition to la Belle Riviere, and that Six Hundred Men more had been sent away in the Winter Time. That they went in Bateaus thro' the Lake Ontario and the Streights of Niagara, and sailed Six or Seven Days in Lake Erie, After which they landed and began to build a Fort on an Eminence, about one hundred yards from the Bank of the Lake, which they called Duquisne, the Name of their General, the Marquis Duquisne. Here the Six Hundred Men, who had left Canada in the Winter, came to them. That the Army cut a Way thro' the Woods, Eight French Leagues at least, if not more, to the Riviere aux Bœufs, and there they began another Fort. That he, among many others, was employed in falling and haling Timber, and were compelled to do very laborious Service, that there were Victuals enough at the Upper Fort, but not always enough at the Second Fort. That Numbers deserted, and Mr. Joncaire, the Interpreter, who had the care of Matters did not mind it, but swore at the Rest and bid them be gone to the English, where they could get Bread. That no more than Ten Indians accompanied them from Canada, who were employed in Hunting for the Commander. That Eight Hundred returned to Canada—that he deserted in the month of August, and that there were Twelve Hundred Men in Garrison in the Upper Fort who were to continue there all the Winter, and that they were making Magazines and great Works there; that he heard the Second Fort was finished and had Five Hundred Men in it.

J. B. PIDON.*

Sworn before me at Philadelphia, this 19th March, 1754.
Will. Allen, Chief Justice.

Indorsed.

Deposition of French Deserter, Jean Baptiste Pidon. 7 March, 1754.

* Col. Rec. Vol. V. p. 750.

Gov'r Sharp to Gov'r. Hamilton, 1754.

Sir:

I am extreemly sorry to hear of your Indisposition, from which I most sincerely wish you the speediest Recovery. I think myself much obliged by Your ready Compliance with my Request, in permitting Daniel Teseron, on whom I am glad to hear a punishment in some measure proportionate to his Deserts, has been already inflicted, to be delivered up to an Officer who waits on you with my Instructions to take custody of & convey him hither.

I am with the greatest Respect,
Sir, Your most obedient
humble servant,
HOR'O. SHARPE.

Annapolis,
March 12, 1754.

A Letter from Governor Fitch to Governor Hamilton.

Hartford, 13th March, 1754.

Sir:

As I am favoured with the Honour of your's of the fourth Instant* by Mr. Armstrong, at a time I am obliged to attend publick Business from home, I can only just signify that I have perused your's to Governor Wolcott, as well as that to me, do well approve of the notice you take of the attempt some of the people of this Colony are making, and the concern you manifest for the general Peace of the British Interest and his Majesties Service which so much depend on a regular proceeding in such Affairs, I know nothing of any thing done by the Government to countenance such a procedure as you intimate, and I conclude, is going on among some of our People. I shall, in all proper ways, use my interest to prevent any thing that may tend any way to prejudice the General good of these Governments; and am inclined to believe this wild scheme of our People will come to nothing, th'o I cant certainly say. I heartily desire a good harmony may subsist between your Government and others, and This in particular. I need not if had time enlarge, seeing the worthy Bearer of your's (with whose Conversation and Account concerning those affairs I was well satisfied and delighted,) has, I suppose, received from Governor Wolcott a more full and satisfactory answer to your Honour. You'll please to command me further in

* See page 122.

this or in any other affair You shall think proper; all which shall be duly honoured by him, may it please your Honour, who is

Your Honours
obedient humble Servt,
THOS. FITCH.

GOVERNOR HAMILTON.

A True Copy,
RICHARD PETERS,
Secretary.

A LETTER FROM GOVERNOR WOLCOTT TO GOVERNOR HAMILTON.

Windsor, March 13, 1754.

Sir,

Your's of the fourth Instant is read, and I hope that by your Letter and my Discourse with Mr. Armstrong, I am now better informed than before, of the State of the Susquehannah Lands.

It is with concern that we in these parts of the Country hear continually news that the French are blocking up the avenues of the Country North and West, and encroaching upon the Lands belonging to the Crowns of Great Britain; we fear that this is very much from a Backwardness in the Western Governments in promoting New Settlements, and there being now, no unimpropriated Lands with us, some of our Inhabitants hearing of this Land at Sasquehannah, and that it was North of the Grant made to Mr. Penn and that to Virginia, are upon a design of making a purchase of the Indians, and hope to obtain a grant of it from the Crown. This appearing to be a design to promote his Majesties Interest and render the Country more defencible, we were all well wishers to it.

But Mr. Armstrong informs me that this Land is certainly within Mr. Penn's Grant; if so, I don't suppose our people had any purpose to Quarrel with Pennsylvania. Indeed, I dont know the mind of every private Man, but I never heard our leading Men express themselves so inclined.

Your proposal to move Mr. Penn and the Government of Virginia, to promote new Settlements in the easiest manner, if effected, may turn the Eyes of our people that way, and it is but reasonable that the Lands so far from the Sea and on the Frontier, should have the Settlers on it encouraged in my Opinion; You may serve Your King, your Proprietaries and your Country in promoting this Scheme, and this may probably draw many of our people to settle in those parts, which I hope will prove orderly and industrious Inhabitants, and being used to War, may be of good service on that account.

* See p. 120.

This seems to be the time, if ever, to promote so good a work, and if omitted, may prove our last Opportunity.

We in New England, from our Beginning, have often had hard Wars with the French and Indians, and have hitherto made our part good with them, it is probable the War will enkindle in the Western parts, and you must come to a push with the French, which shall be the Masters of the Country, in which case, every man will be serviceable according to his Strength of Body and Resolution of mind; the resolution of the soldier will be very much in fighting for his Country according to his Interest in it, and if I must go out, let me have an Army of Freeholders or Freeholders Sons.

I have seen an Instance of this in the Seige of Louisburg: We had but about 3700 Men, and before we had done, about 700 of these were lost or invalids. With these we beat the French at our Landing and beset the City. The Walls were 34, 30 and some places 20 feet high from the Bottom of the French and built so regular, that one or more Cannon swept every face of it. The Trench was 11 Feet deep and 10 Rods wide, without is a picket and Glazing, on the Walls were mounted 101 Cannon and 78 Swivels, in the Town were Five Mortars and all Warlike Stores, besides this, we had the Grand Battery and Island Battery to subdue, in the Town were 2100 Men and Lads able to bear Arms, before these Walls we lay 49 Days hourly expecting an Army the Enemy had raised to take Annapolis would be upon our Backs. We advanced our Battery within forty rods of their Walls, and as we accounted, received from them 9000 great Shot and Bombs. The Ground about our Battery was plowed like a Corn Field, yet I never heard a man in this Time (excepting those in the Hospital,) move to go home till we had taken the City—and we took it, but how, God gave us the victory, but commonly speaking, it was because our Soldiers were Freeholders and Freeholders Sons and had a Sense of Interest in the Country and Liberty, and the Men within the Walls were mercenary Troops.

Whenever the War commences with you, I think a small Army of such Men well appointed and Disciplined, will soon convince the French of their Error in provoking and insulting of you; I think a few of them will be more than a Match for a multitude of their Plebes brought up in Slavery and have nothing to fight for of their own.

This brings to mind a Story a Gentleman told me, that he went in to see his Negro Man then dying, and seeing him just gone, said to him, Coffee, You are just going, are you not sorry? No, says the fellow, Master, the loss wont be mine.

Pardon the length of this Letter, and be assured that I am,

Your Honour's
most Obedient
very humble Servant,
R. WOLCOTT.

The Honorable James Hamilton, Esqr.

Indorsed.

Letters between the Govr of Pennsylvania, and the Gov^rs of Connecticut.—Relating to the Attempts of the Connecticut People settling Lands in Pennsylvania, In 1754.

Board of Trade on Jersey Paper Money, 1754.

To the Right Honble the Lords of the Committee of his Majestys most Honourable Privy Council for Plantation Affairs:

My Lords:

Pursuant to your Lordships Orders, dated the 18th of December last, We have had under our Consideration the humble Petition of the House of Representatives of the Colony of New Jersey, in General Assembly met, and the humble remonstrance of Richard Partridge, Agent for the said Colony to his Majesty, humbly Praying for the reasons therein contained, that his Majesty will be pleased to grant his Royal Leave to the Governor to give his Assent to a Bill, for making Current Sixty Thousand Pounds in Bills of Credit upon the like footing of those heretofore emitted in that Colony by his Majesties Consent; And having been attended by Mr. Partridge, with Mr. Field, his Council, and heard what they had to offer in support of the Allegations of the said Petition and Remonstrance. We beg Leave to acquaint your Lordships.

That the Bills of Credit Created and issued in New Jersey, in the Year 1730 & 1733, on the Model of which the Assembly of that Province, now pray leave to emit the further Sum of Sixty Thousand Pounds, were Lent out to the Inhabitants upon Land Security of Double the Value of the Sum Lent at five Percent Interest, and were made Current, and a legal Tender in all Payments, and for the discharge of all Debts and Contracts whatsoever, during the term of Sixteen Years.

That it has been represented to us that the issuing Bills of Credit upon Loan, within this Province, has been found to be the least burthensome method of Leveying Taxes for the Support of Government, and has also been of great Service in enabling the Inhabitants to extend and Improve their Trade & Settlements, and that as they have little or no Silver or Gold Circulating in the Province, it would have been impossible to have Carried on their Trade & dealings without some such medium: That as the time of the Continuance of the Currency of these Bills is now expired, and the whole of them Entirely Sunk and destroyed, pursuant to the directions of the Acts, except about three thousand Pounds, which is Still outstanding, tho' without any Currency as a Legal Tender, the Province will be reduced to the greatest distress and disabled from Carrying on Trade,

or raising Supplies for the support of Government, unless relieved by a new Emission.

From the Evidence laid before us of the Effect & Operation of the Bills of Credit formerly Issued in this Province, and from the representation of Persons well acquainted with the nature of Paper Money in General, We are inclined to believe that a moderate Quantity Issued upon proper Security, and having a proper fund for its redemption, within a Limited Time may Operate to the advantage of a Trading Colony, serve to Improve & extend the Settlement of it, and may also be the least burthensome Method for Levying Money for the support of Government; but we can by no means agree in Oppinion with the Petitioners, that the making such a Paper Mony a Legal Tender in all Payments is either necessary or Proper, but on the Contrary has been declared by Parliment, in a Resolution of the House of Commons, of the 25th of April, 1740, To be a frustrating of the Act of the 6th of Queen Anne, for ascertaining the rates of foreign Coins in the Plantations, And to have been a great discouragement to the Commerce of this Kingdom, by occasioning a Confusion in dealings & a lessening of Credit in those Parts. It is also contrary to the Sense of Parliament, expressed in the Act lately passed for restraining Paper Bills of Credit in the four Coloneys of New England: and, therefore, if his Majesty, out of his Paternal regard and Indulgence to the ease and Convenience of his Subjects in New Jersey, and in order to restore the peace and Quiet of the Province, and Conciliate the difference which have long subsisted therein, shou'd be graciously Pleased to allow of a New Emission of Sixty thousand Pounds in Bills of Credit, upon the Terms of the former Emissions; We think it ought to be made an Express Condition, that such Bills of Credit should not be declared to be Legal Tenders in Payment of any Debts, Dues or Demands whatsoever. We are also of Opinion, that it ought to be made a Condition of his Majestys Consenting to this Emission: that the Interest arising from the Loan of the Bills shall, during their continuance, be appropriated to all the Established and Contingent Services of Government, and be issued by Warrant from the Governor and Council only, and that in order to prevent any further doubts or Objections, a Clause for that purpose be either prepared here, to be inserted verbatim in the Act for the Emission, or that a Draught of the Bill, with a Clause to that Effect, be Transmitted hither, before the Governor be allowed to give his Assent to it.

By such a Provision as this, his Majesty's Service, and the Government of that Province, will be supported and carried on with great ease and stability, and the Charges of it Provided for in a better manner than by the Present method of Passing Temporary or Annual Acts, which sometimes take Effect before his Majesty's pleasure can be known upon them.

If your Lordships shou'd be of this opinion, We would propose that an Instruction shou'd be given to the Governor of New Jersey,

conformable thereto, with directions, however, not to take any one step towards the Execution of it, until all the Bills for the former emission in 1730 & 1733, now outstanding, shall be finally sunk and destroyed.

We are,
My Lords,
Your Lordship's most obedt
and most humble Servants,

DUNK HALIFAX,
J. GREENVILLE,
FRAN. FANE,
J. PITT.

Whitehall, March 18, 1754.

Indorsed.

Report of the Lords of Trade to the Lords of Privy Council, on Jersey Paper Money, Act 18 March, 1754.

Gov. Sharp to Gov. Hamilton, 1754.

Sir:

I take the Liberty to acquaint You with a Complaint, which has been made to me against a certain William Killing, an Officer under Pensilvania Governt, Surveyour of Kent upon Delaware, for surveying & laying out for one Roger Adams, of Maryland, a Tract of Land, lying between William Owings's Bridge & Marshy Hope Bridge, on the North Side of Dorchester County Road, on a Branch of Nanticoke, within the Settlements & undoubted Limits of this Province: & has included in the said Survey about fifty Acres of a Tract of Land called Taylor's Chance, surveyed forty-two Years since for one Edward Taylor, who at the same time procured patent for it from the Maryland Land Office.

Well assured of Your Disposition to prevent by all means any Disputes, which the Orders I must give upon such Proceedings may raise between the two Provinces, I submit this to Your Honour's Consideration, & hope that Examination being made into this Affair, You will give such Directions as may prevent any Occasion of farther Complaint.

Mr. Peters's in favour of Captain Blair, I have received & shall ever take the greatest pleasure in executing Your farther Commands.

I am with great Esteem,
Your Honour's
Most obedt. humb. Servt,

HORO. SHARPE.

Annapolis, March 20, 1754.

Indorsed.—Govr. Sharpe, 20th March, 1754.

Deposition of John Trotter, 1754.

Pennsylvania, to wit:

John Trotter, of the Township of Paxtang, in the County of Lancaster and Province of Pennsylvania, Indian Trader, aged Thirty Years, being Sworn on the Holy Evangelists, deposeth and saith, that He served an Apprenticeship to Robert Young, a Planter in the said County, and afterwards followed the Indian Trade; that sometime in the Summer, 1752, he being in Partnership with Timothy Reerdon, bought of Thomas McKee of the said County of Lancaster, Indian Trader, an Assortment of Indian Goods, for which they contracted to give him four hundred Pounds, Current Money of this Province, with which Cargo he this Deponent went to Allegany, to an Indian Delaware Town, called Attiga, an antient Town Inhabited by Delawares, as he has frequently heard from their own Mouths for fifty years past, situate on the River Ohio, pretty near half way between Logs Town and Weningo, according to the Course of the River, but as the said River has here a very large Bent, it is not on a Straight line at a greater distance as this Deponent believes from Weningo than Logs Town, and for the Reason of his belief, he says, that he has Walked on foot from Logs Town to Weningo in two Days, and from Attiga to Weningo in the same space of time; this Deponent further says, that he staid in Attiga trading with the Indians till the fourteenth day of last August, when he left it with two Horse Loads of Indian Goods, and the next day as he was about to pass the river opposite to Weningo, in Company with James McLaughlen, an hired Servant of his, a party of French-Men, in Number one hundred and ten, came and Seized them and their Horses, took away the Goods, and Bound this Deponent and the said McLaughlen with Indian Hopples, made of Wild Hemp, in their Arms and Legs; the next day they tied them both together, and drove them before them, but the Woods being too thick to Admit of Traveling in this manner, they loosed them after some time, and on the third day after they left Weningo, they came to a New Fort built on the side of one of the Lakes of Canada, where this Deponent saw the French had cut a Road, and where they were hawling great Guns along the Road to a place where they were going to erect another Fort. This Deponent further says, that they were put into Irons, and Confined in an out house, and a Guard was Set over them; here they stayed four days, and then were put on board a Batteau, and carried along the Lake to a small Wooden Fort situate at the head thereof, and from thence they were the next day put into a Cart, and set out about noon, and came to a large Stone Fort at night, where they stayed two or three Hours, and then were put on Board another Batteau, furnished with Sails and Oars, and Sailing along another of the large Lakes they arrived at Fort Cateraqui, and from thence were carried by Water to Mon-

treal, having remained in Irons during the whole Voyage. At Montreal, the said Deponent and the said McLaughlen were put into Jayl, and staid there four Days, when they were put on Board a Sloop, being there in Irons, and carried to Quebec, where they were again put into Jail for thirty days, after which they were together with Jacob Evans, another English Trader of the Province of Pennsylvania, who was likewise taken prisoner, put on Board a Man of War of thirty-six Guns, and arriv'd at Rochel, and there put into Jayl for thirty Days, having only Bread and Water for their Sustenance; and then the Commanding Officer, one McNemarrow, set them at Liberty and gave them a Pass, with which they Begged their way to Bourdeaux, and this Deponent, together with Jacob Evans, embarqued on Board the Betty and Sally, Captain Snead, bound for this City, where they Arrived on Saturday, the sixteenth Instant. That James McLaughlen was left behind at Bourdeaux for want of Conveniencies in the Vessel.

his
JOHN ⋈ TROTTER.
mark.

Sworn, before William Allen, Esqr., Chief Justice of the said Province, at Philadelphia, the Twenty-second Day of March, One thousand seven hundred and fifty-four.

WILL: ALLEN.

Indorsed.—22^d March, 1754. Copy, Deposition of John Trotter.

George Croghan to R. Peters, 1754.

March ye 23^d, 1753-4.

S^r:

I am Sorry to hear ye Asembley was Nott Convenced of ye absolute Nesesatty, there is att present of assisting ye Indians, whos Cuntry is Invaided by a Number of French, and I hear Likewise they are in Suspence whether Ohio will fall any part of itt within this province; I am Surprised to think that the Gentelmen of Philadelphia are So Litle aquainted with ye back parts of this Province, for I ashure you that from ye three Springs, (which is About Eight Miles west from My house, and Cartanly Some Miles Est from Philip Daveys,) butt 70 Miles to ye Lowrel Hill, ye Road we Now Travel, which I Supose may be About 50 od Miles on a Streat Course, and from Lowrel Hill to Shanopens is butt 46 Mile, as ye Road Now goes, which I Sopose may be 30 od Miles on a Streat Line, what Distance ye three Springs may be from Philadelphia, I Can't tell, Butt I think itt Can't be Above 140 Miles on a Streat Line, and I ashure you from where the Alegania Road Croses ye Lowrel Hill, wanango, where John Cure is Now building a fort, Lays Due North.

I Wish with all My hart Some gentelmen who is an Artist in Philadelphia, and whos Acount wold be Depended on, whould have ye Curiosety to take a Journay in those parts, whos Return, I Dear Say, wold give A Ginrel Satisfaction to ye whole Province.

S^r, I am, y^r Most Humble Servent,

GEO: CROGHAN.

Indorsed.—Geo. Croghan, 23 March, 1754.

Read in Council, 2^d April, 1754. Present—Robert Strettell, Richard Peters.

Directed—To Richard Peters, Esqr. in Philadelphia.

DISTANCES FROM PHILADA. TO TWIGHTWEES.

From Philadelphia to Geo. Croghan's,	100	100
From Geo. Croghan's to Auchquick, Three Springs,		60
To furthermost Crossing Juniata,		20
To Franks Town,		20
To the Clear Fields,		18
To the Head of Susquehanna, Chelisquaqua Creek,		25
To the Two Licks,		25
To the Round Holes,		25
To the River Ohio or Allegheny,		17
To the Logs Town,	250	30
To the Rusks-Kusks,		30
To Tuskerawas,		60
To Muskinong,		40
To ye Three Licks,		30
To Hockockon,		50
To the Lower Shawenese Town,	270½	60
To the first Pict Town on a Branch of Ohio,		180
		800

The above Account is taken from Hugh Crawford & Andrew Montour, the 16th April, 1752.

PRESENT:

				30	From Auchquick to Ohio.
				20	
				18	
	The GOVERNOR.			25	
	WILLIAM PETERS.			25	
	RICHARD PETERS.			25	
				17	
88	113	193		160	

Indorsed—Distance from Philadelphia to the Twightwers, 16 Apr. 1752.

[The temporary line, if extended, will strike the Ohio 40 miles below Shanoppin, by Wests Obr^ns taken in company wth Mr. Lomas, Mr. Guest, Mr. Fry & Mr. Paxin, Com^rs for Maryland, who make Shanoppin to be 40° 20′.]

From mouth of Wills Cr. on Potomac.

New Store at the Mouth of Wills Creek on Potommick,
To Cressaps, 15 miles.

From Wills Creek to ye Great Meadows, a Waggon Road,	52
From ye Great Meadows to Gists, . .	10
To the Crossin of Ohiogany, . . .	6
To the Mouth of Mehongielo, . . .	40
	108
From Rags town to ye Big Meadows, . .	70

Indorsed—Distances to Ohio, 1754.

Distances of Philip Davies from Harris's.

From Susquehanna to Carlise is measured, . .	17½
From Carlisle to Shippenburg, . . .	15
From Shippensburg to Mr. Dowels' Mill, is measured, .	20
From Mr. Dowels Mill to Phil. Davids, North Course,	8
From Ship. to B. Chambers, ...	10
From B. Chamberg, to P. Davies, . . .	16½
	63

		W.
From Jacob Pyatt's by the Road, N. 60 W. to George Croghan's House, computed,	15	8
From G. Croghan's to ye 3 Springs, N. 70, W.	10	7
From the 3 Springs to Auchquick Gap, S. 70, W., ...	7	5
	32	20

Indorsed—The Distance of Philip Davies from Harriss' Ferry. Distance of Ohio, 1754.

An Acct. of the Road to Logs Town on Allegeheney River, taken by John Harris, 1754.

From my Ferry to Geo. Croghan's,	5	Mil[s].
to the Kittitany Moun[s],	9	
to Geo. Cowen's House,	6	
to Andrew Moutour's,	5	
to the Tuscororaw Hill,	9	
to Tho[s]. Mitchell's Sleep[s] place,	3	
to Tuscaroraw,	14	
to the Cove Spring,	10	
to the Shadow of Death,	8	
to the Black Log,	3	
Now the Road forks towards Ray's Town & Frank's Town, we continue Ray's Town Road to Allegeheney.		
to the 3 Springs,	10	
to the sidling Hill Gap,	8	
to Juniata Hill,	8	
to Juniata Creek at ye Crossing,	8	
to the Snake's Spring,	8	
to Ray's Town,	4	
to the Shawana Cabbins,	8	
to Allegheney Hill,	6	
to Edmond's Swamp,	8	
to Stoney Creek,	6	
to Kickeney Paulin's House, (Indian)	6	
to the clear Fields,	7	
to the otherside of the Lawrel Hill,	5	
to Loyal Haning,	6	
to the big bottom,	8	
to the Chesnut Ridge,	8	
to the partings of the Roads,	4	
thence One Road leads to Shanoppin's Town, the other to Kisscomenettes, old Town.		
to the big Lick,	3	
to the Beaver Damms,	6	
to James Dunning's Sleeping place,	8	
to Cock Eye's Cabbin,	8	
to the 4 Mile Run,	11	
to Shanoppin's Town on Allegheney Riv[r].	4	
to the Logs Town, down the River,	16	
Old Roads,	246	Miles.

Now beginning at the black Log, Frank's Town Road.

to Aughwhick,	6 Miles.
to Jack Armstrong's Narrows, so called from his being there murdered,	8 Miles.
to the Standing Stone, (abo^t 14 f^t. high 6 inch square,)	10

At each of these last places we cross Juniata.

to the next & last Crossing at Juniata,	8
to Water Street, (branch of Juniata,)	10
to the big Lick,	10
to Frank's (Stephen's) Town,	5
to the Beaver Damms,	10
to Allegheney Hill,	4
to the clear Fields,	6
to John Hartt's Sleep^g place	12
to the Head of Susquehannah,	12
to the Shawana Cabbins,	12
to P. Shaver's Sleeeping place, at two large licks,	12
to the 18 mile Run,	12
to the 10 mile Lick,	6
to Kiskemenette's Town on the Creek, runs into Allegheney Riv^r, 6 mil^s down, (almost as large as Schuylkill,	10
to the Chartiere's Landing on Allegh^y,	8
to The Kittanning Town up the River,	18
to Venango, higher up Allegh^y,	70
Down the River from Chartiere's Land^s to Pine Creek,	14
to the Logs Town,	17

Logs Town lays due West from J. Harris's Ferry.

NOTE.—John Harris told me that he verily believed that Logs Town was distant from his House due West an hundred miles less than the within acco^t mentions; the Road he went having so many great Crooks.

JOSEPH SHIPPEN, JR.

Commissions of Commissioners to Indian Treaty at Albany, 1754.

William Shirley Esqr., Captain General and Governour in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England.

[L S.]

To Samuel Wells, John Chandler, Thomas Hutchinson, Oliver Partridge & John Worthington, Esqr., Greeting:

Whereas, in Pursuance of Letters from the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners for Trade and the Plantations, dated the 28th of August & 19th of September, 1753, to the Governors of several of his Majesties Plantations in North America, a General Convention of Commissioners for their respective Governments is appointed to be held at the City of Albany in the Month of June next for holding an Interview with the Indians of the five nations, and making them Presents on the Part of the said Governments, usual upon such occasions in order to confirm and Establish their ancient attachments to his Majesty & their constant Friendship to his Majesty's Subjects on this Continent: and Whereas the Great and General Court or Assembly of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay aforesaid, have elected and appointed you to represent and appear for the said Province at the Convention afores^d, for the Purposes abovementioned: as also for entring into articles of Union and Confederation with the aforesaid Governments for the General Defence of his Majesty's Subjects & Interests in North America as well in time of Peace as of War.

Now I do by these Presents impower & Commissionate you the s^d Samuel Welles, John Chandler, Thomas Hutchinson, Oliver Partridge & John Worthington as Commissioners (or any three of you) to appear for & represent the Province of the Massachusetts Bay aforesaid, at the proposed Convention of Commissioners, to be held at the City of Albany in the Month of June Next, then & there to Concert, with the Commissioners (from all or any of his Majesty's British Governments) that may be there Convened, Such Measures as may be judged proper for the Purposes afores^d, and to agree upon the same; and herein you must observe Such Instructions as are herewith delivered you, or may from time to time be given you by the Great & General Court or Assembly of this Province.

Given under my hand & the Publick Seal of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay aforesaid the nineteenth Day of April, 1754, in the twenty-seventh year of his Majesties Reign.

W. SHIRLEY.

By his Excellency's Command,
J. Willard, Secry.
A true Copy Att^r.

SAMUEL WELLES,
JOHN CHANDLER,
OLR. PARTRIDGE,
JOHN WORTHINGTON.

Province of
New Hampshire. }

[Loc. Sig.] George the Second by the Grace of God of great Britain, France & Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c.

To all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting:

Whereas, We have ordered a sum of money to be issued for Presents to the six Nations of Indians, and to direct our Governour of New York to hold an Interview with them for Delivering those Presents, for burying the Hatchet, and for renewing the Covenant Chain with them, and in as much as the attempts that have been made to withdraw them from our Interest, appear to us to make a General Interview more Particularly necessary at this time, and that all our Colonies whose Interest and Security is Connected with, and Depend upon those Indians, Should be Present at, and join in such Interview.

Know ye therefore, that We reposeing much Trust & Confidence in the Integrity & ability of the Honble Theodore Atkinson, Esqr., The Honble Richard Wibird, Esqr, Two of our Council of our said Province. The Honble Meshech Weare, Esqr, Speaker of the General Assembly of our Said Province, & Henry Sherburne, Junr, Esqr, also a Member of the s^d General Assembly, Have by & with the advice of our Trusty and well beloved Benning Wentworth, Esqr, our Governour and Commander in Chief of our Province of New Hampshire aforesaid, Named, made, Constituted, and appointed, and We by these Presents, Name, make, Constitute, and appoint the Said Theodore Atkinson, Esqr, Richard Wibird, Esqr, Meshech Weare, Esqr, & Henry Sherburne, Esqr, our True & undoubted Commissioners Hereby Giving unto them full Power and authority as well as our Special Command; to Repair to our City of Albany or Other Place where the Said interview may be held, and Carried on, and there by the whole or the major part of those of them that shall be Present at the Said Interview For us & in our Name together with Such other Commissioners as shall be regularly appointed from our other Colonies and Provinces in America, to attend at the Said Interview to agree upon Consult, & Conclude what may be necesary for Establishing a Sincere & Lasting Friendship and good Harmony with the Said Six Nations of Indians, and if necessary, for us, and in our name to Sign, every thing so agreed upon, & Concluded, and to do, and Transact all matters and things which may appertain to the Finishing the above said Work.

In Testimony Whereof, We have Caused the Seal of our Said Province of New Hampshire to be hereunto affixed, Witness Benning Wentworth, Esqr, our Governour & Commander in Chief of

our Said Province of New Hampshire in New England, this Third day of June, 1754, and in the Twenty Seventh year of our Reign.

B. WENTWORTH.

By his Excellency Command,
THEODORE ATKINSON, Secry.

Copy Ex'r.

THEODORE ATKINSON,
R. WIBIRD,
MESHECH WEARE,
HEN. SHERBURNE, Junr.

—

Whearas His Majesty has been pleased to order a Sum of Money to be issued for Presents to the Six Nations of Indians, & to direct his Governor of New York, to hold an Interview with them for delivering those Presents, for burying the Hatchet, & for renewing the Covenant Chain with them, & whereas, in Obediance to his Majesties pleasure, signified to them by the Lords of Trade, His Majesties several Colonies on this Continent, have Resolved to Join in such Interview, & have made a Provision for sending each their Commissioners with such Presents as have been usual on like occasions to the said Indian Nations, as a means of securing more effectually their affections to His Majesty & the British Interest. Now in dutifull Compliance with his Majesty's requisition, as well as from a Sense of the importance it must be of to us, & the several neighbouring Provinces, that those Nations be retained in our Allience, more Especially at this time, when our Enemies are endeavouring to withdraw them from our friendship, we have thought fit to Commission you Col°. Benjamin Tasker & Major Abraham Barnes, fully trusting in your known abilities & approved honour, to represent this Province at the Interview appointed to be held at Albany, the 14th of June next, & then & there to renew the Covenant Chain, & enter into a League of Amity with the said Indian Nations, & you shall deliver to them with such Speeches as have been used on similar Occasions, a Present as from his Majesty's dutifull Subjects of this Province of Maryland, in Money or goods, (as to you shall appear most proper,) to the Value of five Hundred pounds Current Money of this Province, which money you will receive from the Treasurer of the Western Shore, & for the better conducting yourselves in regard to the manner & form of the Treaty to be entered into at Albany with the said Six Allied Nations, You shall refer yourselves for Directions to the Honourable James Delancey, Esq., His Majesty's Lieutenant Governor of New York. And whereas, I have had intimation that the Commiss^rs from the several neighbouring Colo-

nies will receive Instructions from their respective Governments to concert Measures with the Commissioners from the other Provinces, for the better Securing these Indians for the future in our Alliance, & preventing their being alienated from our Interest by the artificies or Insinuations of our Enemy, as well as for the more easy Defence of his Majesties Dominions on this Continent; You shall if any Propositions of that nature are made by the Commiss^rs in behalf of their respective Governments, let them know that this Province is also Disposed to Contribute to the Executiou of any General Scheme to promote such desirable Ends, & you will take care to observe well what Propositions, shall, or may be made Concerning such general Scheme, & commit the substance thereof to writing for my information, & to be laid before the General Assembly for their Consideration. But you are to understand that you are not impowered to Stipulate, or engage that this Province will advance any Sum of Money or Number of Men, towards erecting Forts or garrissoning them, or to any such purposes: but you shall only well observe what Proposals are made by the other Commiss^rs, & endeavour to learn how far the Execution of what they may propose can be Necessary or usefull, & Consider well the Reasonableness of any such Propositions, & inform yourselves whether the other Commiss^rs are authorized to Stipulate & agree thereon, & at your return you shall inform me of these several particulars, & any other things that may possibly occur to your notice, that I may not be ignorant after what manner we can best contribute to the success of any such scheme as shall be proposed at the aforesaid Interview for the Defence or Utility of his Majesty's American Dominions & Subjects.

HORO. SHARPE.

Annapolis, May 30th, 1754.
A true copy examined by

BENJ. TASKER, Jr.,
A. BARNES.

—

{ Sigillum Coloniæ Connecticutensis. } Thomas Fitch, Esqr, Governor and Commander in Chief of his Majesty's English Colony of Connecticut in New England, in America.

To William Pitkin, Roger Wolcott, Junr, and Elisha Williams, Esqr, Greeting:

Whereas you are by the General Assembly of said Colony nominated and appointed to be Commissioners in behalf of said Colony, to meet such Commissioners as are or shall be appointed by his

Majesty's other Governments in America, at a general interview at Albany on the 14th day of June next, & join with them in concerting proper measures for the general defence and Safety of his Majesty's Subjects in said Governments & the Indians in Alliance with them, against the French & their Indians.

Therefore, in pursuance of said Act of Assembly, You, the said William Pitkin, Roger Wolcott, Junr, & Elisha Williams, Esq^{rs}, are Commissioned, authorized & impowered, in behalf of his Majesty's Colony of Connecticutt, to meet the Commissioners appointed by his Majesty's other governments in America, at Albany, on the 14th day of June, next, & in concert with such Commissioners from his Majesty's other Governments as shall meet there to consult proper measures for the general defence & Safety of his Majesty's Subjects in said Governments, & the Indians in his Allience, against the French & their Indians; and to use & pursue proper measures in pursuance of your instructions from the said General Assembly, relating to the matters afores^{d}.

Given under my hand and the public Seal of the Colony of Connecticutt, in Hartford, this 30th day of May, Anno regni Regis Geogÿ 2^{di} Magn. Britan. &c., 27mo Annoq. Domini, 1754.

THOMAS FITCH.

By his Honour's command.
GEORGE WYLLYS, Secret'y.

A true Copy. Test^{us}.

WM. PITKIN,
ROGER WOLCOTT, Junr,
ELISHA WILLIAMS.
} Comisso^{rs}.

—

[Locus Sigilli.] By the hon^{ble} William Greene, Esqr, Governor and Captain General of the English Colony of Rhode Island, and Providence Plantations in New England, in America.

To Stephen Hopkins & Martin Howard, Junr, Esq^{rs}, Greeting:

Whereas the General Assembly of this Colony have on their Parts chosen and appointed you to meet with the Comissioners of the other Governments, at Albany, on the fourteenth Day of this Instant, June, and Join with them in a Treaty with the Six Nations of Indians, in order to Secure the Interest of his Majesty and his good Subjects in those Parts.

I do, therefore, by Virtue of an Act of the General Assembly of this Colony, authorize, impower & comissionate you, the said Stephen Hopkins and Martin Howard, Junr, forthwith to repair to Albany, afores^{d}, and there in behalf of this Colony, to meet & Join with the

other Comissioners in consulting what methods are proper to be Used to preserve the Friendship of the aforesaid Six Nations of Indians, and their Attachments to the British Interest in America, and also what else may be Necessary, to prohibit the French & their Allies, the Indians, from Encroaching on the Lands within the Dominions of his Majesty. And in General, as far as the abilities of this Government will permit, to act in Conjunction with the said Commissioners in every thing Necessary for the good of his Majestie's Subjects in those Parts, and to answer as far as we can the Designs of his Majesty's Instructions to this Colony, comunicated to us by the Earl of Holderness.

In Testimony whereof, I do hereunto set my hand, & cause the Seal of the Colony aforesaid to be hereunto affixed, this twelfth day of June, one Thousand Seven Hundred & fifty-four, & in the twenty Seventh year of the Reign of his most sacred Majesty, George the Second, by the Grace of God, King of Gr^t Brit^n, &c.

W. GREENE.

By his honour's Command.
THO. WARD, Sec'ry.
A true Copy, Exam^d by STEP. HOPKINS,
MAR. Howard, Jr.

—

Pennsylvania, ss.

George the Second, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King Defender of the faith, &c. To our Trusty and well-beloved John Penn, Richard Peters, Isaac Norris, and Benjamin Franklin, of the city of Philadelphia, Esq^rs, Greeting:

Whereas the Honorable James Delancey, Esqr, our Lieutenant Governor and Comander-in-Chief of our Province of New York, has received our Directions to hold an Interview with our Loving and good Allies, the Six united Nations of Indians, at the City of Albany, within our said Province, for delivering to them our Presents, and for renewing the Covenant Chain with them, and has fixed upon the fourteenth day of June ensuing for this purpose; and it has been usual when an Interview has been held with these Indians, for all Majestie's Colonies whose Interest and Security is connected with and depends upon them, to Join in Such interview, and it appears to us that the Present Disposition of those Indians, and the Attempts that have been made to withdraw them from our Interest, do make such a general Interview more particularly necessary at this Time, when the Subjects of the French King have actually marched into, and erected Forts, and committed Hostilities within the known Limits of our Dominions. Know Ye, that reposing Special Trust and Confidence in your Loyalty, Abilities, and Prudence, We have thought

fit to nominate and appoint you, the said John Penn, Richard Peters, Isaac Norris, and Benjamin Franklin, and Every of you, our Comissioners on Behalf of our Governor of our Province of Pennsylvania, aforesaid, in Conjunction with our Lieutenant Governor of New York, and with the Commissioners of the other Governments, to treat with the Six united Nations of Indians at Albany, or with their, or any, or every of their Chiefs or Delegates, and with them to renew, ratify, and Confirm the Leagues of Amity Subsisting between us and the said Nations of Indians, and to make them the Present that have been provided for them by the Governor and Assembly of our said Province of Pennsylvania, and further to do, act, transact, and finally to Conclude and agree with the Indians aforesaid, all and every other Matter and thing which to you shall appear Necessary for the engaging them heartily in our Interest, and for frustrating any attempts which have been made to withdraw them from it, as fully and amply to all Intents, Constructions, and Purposes, as our Governor of our Province of Pennsylvania aforesaid, might or could do being Personally present. Hereby ratifying, confirming, and holding for firm and effectual, whatsoever you, the said John Penn, Richard Peters, Isaac Norris, and Benjamin Franklin, or any of you, shall lawfully do in and about the Premises. In Testimony whereof, we have caused the great Seal of our said Province to be hereunto affixed. Witness, James Hamilton, Esqr, (by Virtue of a Commission from Thomas Penn, & Richard Penn, Esq^{rs}, true and absolute Proprietaries of the said Province, and with our Royal approbation,) Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province aforesaid and Counties of New Castle, Kent & Sussex, upon Delaware, at Philadelphia, the thirteenth Day of May, in the year of our Lord one Thousand Seven hundred & fifty-four, and in the twenty-seventh of our Reign.

JAMES HAMILTON.*

A true Copy, Ex. RICHARD PETERS,
IS. NORRIS,
B. FRANKLIN.

Indorsed.

Copies—Forms of the Comissions from the several Governors to the several Gentlemen appointed to hold a Treaty with the Six Nation Indians at Albany, June, 1754.

* See Col. Rec. Vol. VI. pp. 23, 45, 47, 57—133.

George Croghan to Governor, 1754.

May ye 14th, 1754.

May itt Plese y^r Honour,

This Day I Received a Letter from M^r. Peters, by y^r Honours Command, Desiring I may give y^r honour my Sentiments in what maner y^e £100 which y^r honour has to be aded to ye Goods in my hands for ye Shannas, Should be Disposed of, in Answer, I must Inform y^r honour, that by an Indian who Came hear two Days ago from Ohio, with a Mesidge from ye half king to Andrew Montour and My Self, Desiring we may Imeadetly meet him and ye Chieffs of ye Ohio Indians on Monohongela, to know what ye English Intends to Do; ye half king has sent me word that ye Shannas are in a Desprett Condition for want of amonisions, and if nott Imeadettly taken Notice of and Suply^d by ye English, he thinks they must comply with the French Meshers, therefore itt is my opinion that the £100 Should be sent Imeadettly to parshess goods there, and that ye whole Should be delivered to ye half king, for him to Deliver itt to ye Shannas, with a Speech from y^r honour, as Andrew Montour and Myself Setts of in two Days, I have Sent this Speshell Messinger to Acquaint y^r honour of ye Situation ye Indians are in and by whatt I Can Learn from this Indian the whole of ye Ohio Indians Does Nott No what to think, they Imagine by this Government Doing Nothing towards ye Expedition that ye Virginians and ye French Intend to Divide ye Land of Ohio between them, and if they should putt that Construction on ye Delays of this Government, itt will Certainly be of ill Consequence to the English in gineral, and itt is my opinion without the harty Concurrence of this Government that the Indians will Suspectt ye Virginians as only atacking ye French, on Account of Setling ye Lands ye Government may have what opinion they will of ye Ohio Indians, and think they are oblig^d to Do what ye Onondago Counsel will bid them, Butt I ashure y^r honour they will actt for themselves att this time without Consulting ye Onondago Councel. This Messinger is to follow Andrew Montour and me to Monohongala, and if y^r honour Dose Nott think proper to Send a Messinger to purchess ye goods for ye Shannas, if you Send the £100 by ye bearor to Andrew Montour, and then we will purchess them and Deliver ye whole to ye half king to be Delivered to ye Shannas, if Nott I must Deliver what is in my hands to ye same Indians that had the Last present, for I Can by no means bring them back, as ye half king knows they are there for that purposs. I asshure y^r honour Andrew Montour & My self has a very Different part to act att present, from ye Several Mesidges we have Delivered ye Indians to ashure them of ye asistance of ye English Governments, which I am a fread will Come to leatt, I

have A boutt two hundred pounds worth of Provisions Now half way to Ohio, where they will Stay till I go up. I Can Dispose of them to ye Virginia forsess, Butt if yr honour Should have ocation of them for ye use of this government, I will Nott Ingage to Virginia, besides I have bought £300 worth more in ye Contrey, yt flower a' 9 ℔ hundred, which yr honour may have, only paying me for ye Caridge out.

I am yr honours most humble
and most obedient Servant,
GEO. CROGHAN.

Indorsed.
14th May. 1754. Geo. Croghan.

Diary of Journey of Com'rs to Albany, 1754.

Begun Monday, the 3d June, 1754.

June.

M. 3. Dined at Bristol . . . Sup'd at Trentown.

T. 4. Baited at Kingstown, rain'd ye greatest p'rt of the forenon; din'd at Brunswick; Tea at Mrs. Curstegans. Visited A. White. Thunder & Rain.

W. 5. Baited at Woodstock. Din'd at Staten Island Point. Watsons left the Horses there. Cross'd ye Bay in an hour & Quarter; went to Scotch John's, Waited on ye Govr at Mr. Watt's; went to Coffee ho' & tavern at Night. Willets lodged wth Jurs.

T. 6. Peter Livingston, Mr. Norris, Mr. Penn, Mr. Weiser, myself & Mr. Loxling my Lt. D. fix'd on the Lists of Indian Goods. Din'd wth ye Govr at Willet's; Govr in Conversation proposed maintaining ye Indians one day at New York, another Pennsylvania, &c. Night at Mr. Walton's.

F. Mr. Tasker, Mr. Barnes & self went to Peter Livingston's; left ye Indian presents for Maryland wth Conrad Weiser. Dined at Phil Livingston's; went to Mr. Wells's Country house, wth Mr. Walton, there we drank Cydar. Sup'd at Mr. Barclay's wth Dr. Johnson; Conversation on Indians. Govr set off at 11 o'clock home.

S. Went to Marlots; dined at Mr. Walton's. Sup'd at Willet's

S. At 7 went on Board Albany Sloop, Egbert Egbert. Wind N. E., made about 4 miles; made upon ye sloop Delancy in Company wth Maryland Sloop. M. Jacks, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Horn, Mr. Ridout.

M. Head Wind; came to anchor near Philepses.
T. Head Wind; came to anchor near
W. Head Wind; came to anchor near

Indorsed.
Diary to Albany, 1754.

Capitulation of Fort Necessity, 1754.

Capitulation granted by Mons. DeVillier, Cap. and Commander of Infantry and Troops of His Most Christian Majesty, to those English Troops actually in the Fort of Necessity, wch was built on the Lands of the King's Dominions, July the 3^d^, at 8 °Clock at Night, 1754.

As our Intentions has never been to trouble the Peace and good Harmony wch reigns between the two Princes in Amity, but only to revenge the Assasination wch has been done on one of our Officers bearer of a Sitation as appears by his Writing, as also to hinder any Establishment on the Lands of the Dominions of the King my Master, upon these Considerations: we are willing to grant Protection or Favour to all the English that are in the Said Fort, upon the Conditions herafter mentioned.

Article 1st.

We grant the English Commander to retire wth all his Garrison, and to return peaceably into his own country, and promise to hinder his receiving any Insult from us French, and to restrain as much as shall be in our Power the Savages that are wth us.

2dly.

It shall be permitted him to go out, and carry wth him all that belongs to them except the Artillery wch we keep.

3dly.

That we will allow them the Honours of Warr, that they march out Drums beating, wth a Swivell Gun, being willing to shew them that we treat them as Friends.

4^thly^.

That as soon as the Articles are Signed by the one Part and the other, they strike the English Colours.

5^thly^.

That to-morrow at Break of Day, a Detachment of French shall go to make the Garrison file off, and take possession of the Fort.

141. 161.

6thly.

And as the English have few Oxen or Horses, they are free to hide their Effects, and come and search for them when they have met their Horses, and that they may for this end have Guardians in what number they please upon Condition that they will give their Word of Honour not to Work upon any building in this Place or any part this side of the Mountain during a Year to be accounted from this Day.

7thly.

And as the English have in their Power an Officer, two Cadets, and most of the Prisoners made in the Assasination of the Sr De Jamonville, and that they promise to send them back wth Safe guard, to the Fort Duquesne, situated on the Fine River, and for Surety of this Article, as well as this Treaty, Mr. Jacob Vambram & Robert Stobo,* both Captains, shall be put as Hostages 'till the Arrivall of the Cannadians & French above mentioned. We oblidge ourselves, on our Side, to give an Escort, to return in Safety these two Officers. We promise our French in two Months & a half at farthest. A Duplicate being made upon one of the Posts of our Bloccade the day above.

CON VILLIER.

Indorsed.

Capitulation granted to Col. Washington by Monsieur De Villier, Commander of the French Troops, 3d July, 1754.†

Copy of Deed to "Susquehanna Co.," by Indians, 1754.

To all People to Whom These Presents shall Come, Greeting:—Know Yee, That We, Kahib,to,ton, Abraham Pieters, Willem Tarigjo, Xis, Brant Cou,wig,no,ge, Henderick Pieters, Te,ge no,je, Ca,na,ge,ga,je, Cag,swig,te,jo,ne, Set Ju,ta,ra,rie, Johanis So,ge,-howa,ne, Johnis Ca,na,de,ga,ie, Nikes Ca,rig,iak,ta,die, Johanis Sig,na,ge,rat, Ca,ris,ta,go, Se,nos,ses, A,gwe,jo,ta, Sea,ron,ja,pe, Half King, And Sea,ner,ra,die, Being Chiefs, Sachems, & Heads of the Five Nations of Indians, called the Iroquois, and the Native Proprietors of a Large Tract of Land on, About, & Adjacent to the River Susquehannah, Between the fourty-first & fourty-Third Degrees of North Latitude, And being within the Limits and Bounds

* The Lithograph view of Fort Du Quesne, here inserted, accompanied Letters from Capt. Robert Stobo and Geo. Croghan, printed in Colonial Records, Vol. VI. pp. 141 and 161—3, where a blank is left for this plan, and some particulars of the fort are given. July 28 and 29, 1754.

† See it in French, Vol. VI. p. 52, Colon. Rec.

of the Charter, and Grant of his late Majesty, King Charles 2nd., To the Colonys of Connecticutt. And Whereas, a Large Number of the Leige & Good Subjects of His Royall Majesty, George 2nd. of Great Britain, &c., King; Inhabitants of his sd. Majestys English Colonys of Connecticutt, &c., to the Number of About six hundred, have Applyd to us for the purchase of sd. above mention'd Tract of Land, for a Plantation to settle upon:

Thereupon Whereas, A Constant & Cordial friendship from the Time of our Progenitors & Predecessors to this day, hath allways been subsisting Between us & our Brethren the English Subjects of his sd. Majesty, King George, & of his Royall Predecessors, Kings & Queens of Great Britain, &c., The Continuation of which we heartily Desire: And whereas, the Enabling and Encourageing Our sd. English Brethren to plant and settle in a Nearer Neighbearhood to us than heretofore, may Greatly Contribute to Our Safety & Defence against the Unjust Encroachments and Insults of the French Indians in alliance with them, and to the benefit & Increase of Our Trade, And Also may be Very Conducive to Our Obtaining a more full & Clear Knowledge of the True God & the Christian Religion, and thereby fix & Establish a More firm, solid, and Lasting friendship with his sd. Majesties English Subjects.

Now Thereupon, for & in Consideration thereof, as also for the further, full, & Ample Consideration of the Sum of Two Thousand Pounds, New York Currency, To us, to Our full Satisfaction, before the Ensealing Hereof, Contented and Paid, the Receipt Whereof, to full Content, we do hereby acknowledge, And Thereupon, do Give, Grant, Bargain, Sell, Convey, and Confirm, Unto

Hezekiah Huntingdon, Esqr.,
Roger Wolcott, Jnr., Esqr.,
Coll Elisha Williams,
Phineas Lyman, Esqr.,
Daniel Edwards, Esqr.,
Coll Samuell Talcutt, Esqr.,
George Willys, Esqr.,
Thomas Wells, Esqr.,
Siphalet Dyer, Esqr.,
Jabez Fitch, Esqr.,
John Smith, Esqr.,
Ezekiel Perry, Esqr.,
Thomas Seymore,
Will Pitkin, Jnr., Esqr.,
Eliezar Fitch, Esqr.,
John Fitch,
Samuell Gray, Esqr.,
Jedediah Elderkin,
John Abbe,
William Andrass,
Moses Barnett,
John Backus,
Noah Briggs,
Caleb Bates,
Jonathan Baker,
Nehemiah Barker,
Ezra Belding,
William Buck,
Jchiel Barnam,
Gideon Bingham,
Robert Crery, Jnr.,
Benjamen Crery,
Christopher Crery,
Abijah Crery,
Giles Churchel,
Barnet Dixon,
Robert Dixon,
David Downing,
John Dixon,
John Dorrance,

James Dixon,
Nathaniell Daniels,
Samuell Dorranil,
Richard Downer,
Josiah Dean, Jnr.,
Asa Douglass,
Gideon Denning,
Joseph Eaton,
Joshua Elderkin,
Edward Ewings,
Elias Frink,
Elijah Francis,
John Gaston,
John Grosvenor,
Ebenezer Grosvenor,
Stephen Gardner,
Stephen Gardner, Jnr.,
Jonathan Gardner,
David Griswold,
Elija Griswold,
Robert Hunter,
John Hunter,
Henry Hewell,
John Howard,
Sara Huntingdon,
Stephen Harden,
John Hough,
Josiah Horsford,
Daniel Horsford,
John Judd,
William Jackson,
John Jenkes,
Joseph Kyle,
Archilaiel Casson,
Samuell Kason,
Adam Kason,
Jeremiah Kenney,
Moses Kenney,
Gedion Kenney,
Nathan Kenney,
John Kenney,
Spencer Kenney,
John Clagwin,
Hugh Kennedy, Jnr.,
Thomas Kennedy, Jnr.,
Seth Kent,
James Kasson,
John Leavins,
Ebenezer Larnard,
Steven Lee,
Isaac Lee,
Edward Mott,
James Montgomery,
John Montgomery,
Gauss Miller,
Samuell McGarland,
John Montgomery,
Joseph Moffitt,
Manassah Minor,
Thomas Mansfield,
John Manning, Jnr.,
Josiah Orcutt,
William Parkes,
Matthew Patrick,
Jacob Patrick,
Joseph Phillips,
Benjamin Prerie, Jnr.,
Robert Parkes,
Nathan Parkes,
Jeremia Ross,
Stephen Rude,
Obadiah Rhodes,
Noah Stantly,
John Stantly,
Timothy Stantly,
Thomas Snell,
Lemuell Smith,
John Stevens,
Isack Shepard,
Jesse Spading,
Thomas Stewart,
John Streater,
Nehemiah Stepkens,
Andrew Stepkens,
Benjamin Stepkens,
Solomon Stoddard,
Ebenezer Smith, Jnr.,
Ebenezer Smith,
Uriah Stephens,
Joseph Smith, Junr.,
Samuel Silsby,
Simon Tubbs,
Joseph Taylor,
Philip Turner,
Samuel Taylor,
Judah Wright,

Eliphalet Whilletsog,
Joseph Welden,
David Walers,
Isack Warner,
William Williams,
John Wiley, Junr.,
Thomas Wiley,
Hugh Wiley,
James Willey,
Ebenezer Wright,
Isaac Woodworth,
William Whiling,
William Churchil,
Josiah Curtue,
Nathan Booth,
Jehabod Willes,
Phinehas Judd,
Stephen Skinner,
William Fitch,
James Bradford,
Matthew Patrick, Jn^{r}.,
Nathaniel Wales, Jn^{r}.,
Nathaniel Hovey,
Prince Tracy,
Noah Gilbert,
Daniel Knolton,
William Huston,
Mosiss Fish,
John Johnson, Junr.,
William Chandler, Esqr.,
Nathaniel Warner,
Gershorn Durrance,
Thomas Pierce,
Samuell Chandler, Esqr.,
Nathaniel Berry,
Nathaniel Weeler, Esqr.,
Zebadiah Farnum,
Daniel Stoughton.
Jonas Shepard,
Matthew Talcott,
Joseph Church,
Ezekiel Williams,
John Humphry, Esqr.,
Roger Hooker,
Alexander Wolcott,
Samuell Talcott,
Thomas Hosmore, Esqr.,
Jonathan Hale, Esqr.,

Abener Moseley,
Peletiah Mills,
Daniel Goodwin,
Jonathan Humphry,
Jonathan Pettibone,
Andrew Robe,
David Phelpes,
Hezekiah Humphry,
Hezekiah Phelpes,
John Victes,
Joseph Welles,
Timothy Seymore,
Russell Woodbridge,
William Stantly,
Samuel Welles,
John Walt,
Benjamin Callwell,
Alixander Gaston,
Rowland Barton,
Alixander Phelips,
Niles Colman,
David Barker,
Benjamin Pumroy,
John Fitch, Junr.
Joseph Warren,
Seat Dean,
Samuell Hunter,
Noah Webster,
Thomas Howard,
Zebulon Waterman,
Ebenezer Leach,
Penuel Bewen,
Israel Dimock,
Abiel Abbott,
Thomas Hedman,
James Hedman,
Ebenezer Griffin,
Thomas Stephens,
Thomas Stephens, Jun.
Benjamin Lee,
Stephen Fuller,
Paul Holt,
Benjamin Collins,
James Willson,
James Douglass,
John Campbell,
Hugh Wyley, Junr.
Benjamin Parke,

Bartholeme Arthur,
Thomas Jones,
Joseph Taylour,
John Read,
William Swetland,
Pieter Swetland,
Jonathan Harriss,
Elisha Scovill,
Ebeinezer Williames,
Abel Griswold,
Stephen Jenkins,
David Deway,
Gershom Breed,
John Newton,
John Grant,
Ephraim Gardner,
Gershome Hinkley,
Joshua Randsome,
Miles Gordon,
Isaac Tracy,
James Hide,
Asa Walerman,
John Baldwin,
Elijah Backus,
Phenchas Holden,
Christopher Palmer,
Thomas Anderson,
Allen Willey,
John Rollebone,
Daniel Ely,
David Dodge, Junr.
Ebenezer Watson,
Samuel Stoughton,
Samuel Willes, Junr.
Isaac Sheldon,
Ebenezer Beacher,
Oliver Wolcott,
Elisha Sheldon,
Ebenezar Marsh,
Samuel Cockrin,
Benjamin Green,
Ephraim Andrus,
Daniel Turner,
George Palmer,
Capt. Uriah Stephens,
Samuel Orlin,
Jacob Hensdel,
Thomas Williams,
Zebulon Stephens,
Thomas Wattson,
Joseph Bird, Esqr.
John Holmes,
John Dean,
Increase Moseley, Esqr.
John Hutchinson, Esqr.
Ebenezer Fletcher,
Joshua Whitney,
Samuel Slaughter,
Robert Hannis,
Noah Stephens,
David Whitney, Esqr.
Jedediah Stephens,
Jonathan Smith,
Thomas Parmely,
Oliver Sanford,
Azariah Orton,
Josiah Everitt,
Francis Ditts,
Josiah Ditts,
Timothy Rose,
Timothy Everitt,
Silas Storey,
Hezekiah Hooker,
Jedediah Richards,
Pieter Gransan,
Richard Reat,
Ebenezer Gransan,
Daniel Berry,
John Franklin,
Robert Walker,
Edward Spalding,
Josiah Cleaveland,
Samuell Lee,
Elier Andruss,
William Fellows,
Seth Northon,
Levi Watson,
Eliphalet Ensign,
Lemuel Orton.
Eliezer Gooden,
Daniel Willcocks,
Samuell Gooden,
Turbel Whitney,
James Bird,
Thomas Bird,
John Miner,

Joseph Allen,
James Dunham,
Robert Wincott,
Thomas Stephens,
Joshua Rathbone,
John Rathbone,
Elijah Dean,
John Read,
Edward Waldow,
Jacob Rathbone,
Isaac Gallop,
Jonathan Wealdor,
Daniel Rothbone,
Daniel Miner,
Valentine Rothbone,
Agur Judson,
Zachariah Clark,
Peter Curtue,
James Livingworth,
Jedediah Mills,
Samuell Defourest,
Elisha Mills,
Francis Hawley,
Edmund Lewis, Junr.
Daniel Hide,
Josiah Lewis. Junr.
John Laboree,
Ephraim Judson,
John French,
Jabez Sommers,
Josiah Robinson,
Nathaniel Baker,
Joseph Arnold,
Benjamin Thompson,
Daniell Morriss,
John Androws,
Benjamin Rhamsey, Junr.
Josiah Wakeman,
Daniel Sherwood,
Cornelius Hull,
Stephen Whaman, Junr.
Thomas Couch,
Josiah Beardfley,
Ephraim Bennet,
Matthew Curtice,
Jonathan Boothe,
Caleb Baldwin,
Jonathan Willard,
Joshua Wells,
Joseph Hulbart,
Isaac Sawyer,
Samuell Flagg,
Daniel Lothrop,
John Elderkin,
Stephen Beckwith,
Jeremiah Clements,
Samuell Gore,
Benjamin Gale,
William Whitney,
Barzillai Handee,
Isaac Lawrence,
Joseph Palmetre,
Malachi Butler,
Joseph Follit,
John Spencer, Ju^n.
Elijah Hide,
Nathaniel Cushman,
Caleb Hide,
Obediah Newcomb,
Joseph Bingham, Ju^nr.
John Strong,
Noah Dewey,
Joseph Skiff,
Jonathan Hall,
Jabez Dean,
Joseph Wight,
Obadia Gore,
Abel Clarke,
Seth Smith,
John Birchard, 3^d,
Joseph Denison, Esqr.
Samuell Fracy,
Ephraim Bill,
Hubbard Pride,
Thomas Welles,
Thomas Fish,
Thomas Branch, Ju^n.
Benjamin Wintworth,
Simon Huntington,
Isaac Tracy, Junr.
John Wood,
Oliver Spuer,
Benjamin Giles,
Thomas Giles,
Docter Moffit.
Thomas Stantly,

Jonathan Ginnings,
Simon Bachus,
Ebenezer Grover,
Joseph Billing, Junr.
Robert Kenady,
John Williams,
Daniel Lathan,
John Choate,
Jacob Kimball,
Thomas Boles,
Elisha Tracy,
Joseph Tracy, Junr.
Isaac Saben,
William Lothrop,
Daniel Rockwell,
Benedict Arnold,
Nathaniel Parker,
George Denniss,
Rachel Milliner,
John Edgerton,
Samuel Walworth,
Cristopher Starke,
Thomas Walworth.
Stephon Billings,
Jonathan Stricklan,
John Bliss,
Samuell Hunn,
Seth Alden,
John Birchard,
Robert Boyington,
Marock Ward,
Jacob Drake, Junr.
Ashbel Woodbridge,
Eliazar Tallcott,
Silas Wells,
John Wells,
Samuel Burnes,
Constant Catlen,
John Hensdill,
Jedediah Norton,
Elisha Hale,
Jacob Drake,
Asahel Drake,
Barnabas Hatch,
Josiah Cowles,
John Webster,
John Cook,
Ruben Swift,
Isaac Mosely,
Jonathan Laniton,
John Patersan,
Nathan Pason,
Oliver Badcock,
Solamon Grant,
Benjamin Newcomb,
Joseph Lippett,

472. All of the Aforesaid Colony of Connecticut, New England, And To

Jabez Bowen, Esqr.,
Jonathan Randall, Esqr.,
Job Randall, Esqr.,
Jonathan Nicolls, Esqr.,
Robert Hazzerd,
Benjamin Brown,
Francis Coelgrove,
Martin Howard,
Philip Wilkison,
Daniel Ayrautt,
Gorge Dorrance,
Samuell Dorrance,
Michel Dorrance,
Elnathan Warker,
Amos Stafford, Junr.,
Simon Draper,
Thomas Mattison,
Daniel Lawrance,
Amos Stafford,
Samuall Drown,
John Bucklin,
Thomas Burt,
Jonathan Morey,
Charles Harriss,
William Shaldon,
Eliakim Walker,
Richard Charnton,
Beriah Brown,
John Reynold,
John Bynold, Junr..
Jonathan Reynold,
Benjamin Sheffield,
Jonathan Hamilton,

33. Of the Colony of Rhodisland, In New England, And to

Daniel Shoemaker,

Benjamin Shoemaker,
Joseph Skinner,
Abraham Feniump, Esqr.,
John Adkins, Esqr.,
Samuell Dupew,
John Panater, Esqr.,
Danel Henshaw,
Aaron Depew,
Solomon Ginnings,
10. All of the Governmentt of Pensilvania, And to
Timothy Woodbridge,
Henderick Brower, Jn^{r}.,
John Wing,
John Wing, Jn^{r}.,
David King,
5. Of the Province of The Massachusetts Bay, & to
Jacob Booseboom,
Wiliam DeBidder,
Abraham J. Lansing,
Jeremia Hogeboom,
Jonathan Buck,
Balthazart Lydius,
John Roosa,
Johannis Seger, Junr.,
8. Of the Province of New York, Being all Five Hundred & Thirty-Four in Number, to Each & Every of the persons before & above mentioned and named, the Two Twelve hundredeth and Twenty-Four Parts of the Large Tract or Parcell of Land as hereafter described and Bounded. And we do also for & Upon the Considerations aforesaid, Give, Grant, Bargain, Sell, Convey, & Confirm Unto
Eliphalet Newell,
Jacob Dana,
John Webb,
Oliver Parish,
Paul Hebard,
Hezekiah Huntington,
Ebenezer Bebbens,
Abraham Snow,
Eliazer Done,
Joseph Spolding,
Curtice Spolding,
Thomas Brown,
John Eddy,
Judah Fay,
Joseph Alixander,
John Cambel, 3^{d},
James Cambel, Junr.,
Jacob Simons,
Jeduthum Simons,
Benjamin Park,
Henry Arnold,
John Wells,
Jacob Sisio,
Hezekiah Demmon,
Samuell Douglass,
James Morris,
Samuell Jackson,
Samuell Gorden,
Gideon Baldwin,
Abel Barnes,
Hezekiah Orton,
John Wough,
Thomas Lylly,
Samuell Norton,
Hezekiah Hooker,
Thomas Fellows,
James Hanners,
Joseph Fellows,
Henrey Bass,
Benjamin Follet,
Simeon Dean,
John Steal,
Elisha Steal,
Samual Church,
Ebenezor Lewis,
Caleb Wheeler,
Jehiel Bryant,
Cotton Fletcher,
John Fellows,
Samuell Ford,
Job Marsh,
John Perkins,

Thomas Porter,
Andrew Baron,
Thomas Day,
David Bradwell,
Gideon Lawrence,
Jessee Stevens,
Alixander Hinman,
Natheniel Crandull,
Joshun Birch,
Eli Colton,
Daniel Alden,
Nathaniel Loomiss,
George Crery,
Oliver Crery,
Aaron Crery,
William Crery,
Ebanezer Cheney,
John Cogswell,
John Cone,
John Coleburt,
Abraham Harden,
Jonathan Sanger,
Thomas Steal,
Thomas Warner,
Zachareah Bucknall,
John Royce,
Samuell Douglas,
Josuah Donlap,
Alixander Stevens,
Benjamin Bill,
Elias Fink, Junr.,
Joseph Hagen,
Samuell Webb, Junr.,
Seth Wright,
John Larebee,
Nathaniel Hide,
Ephraim Dean,
Phineahas Lewiss,
John Strong,
Hezekiah May,
Thomas Wells,
Josiah Grifwol,
James Lockwood,
Elisha Williams, Junr.,
Ezekiel Porter,
Samuell May,
Joseph Webb,
Thomas Belding, Junr.,
Samuell Curtice,
John Hart,
William Wadeworth,
Peter Judson,
Nehemiah Lewiss,
Lott Norton,
David Bigilo, Junr.,
John Young,
Jacob Simons, 3d,
Zebulon Heberd,
Joshua Read,
Gideon Heberd,
Joseph Badcock,
Samuell Bennit,
David Palmer,
Benajah Parkes,
Josiah Parkes,
Gideon Haskell,
Jacob Geers,
Benjamin Geers,
John Read, Junr.,
Elnathan Street,
Constant Caston,
William Manly,
Caleb Moses,
Mark Leavensworth,
John Leavensworth,
Ezra Stiles,
Jonathan Fitch,
Nathanial Barnes,
James Case,
Daniell Bull,
Joseph Case,
Elisha Cornish,
Isaac Petebone.
Timothy Moses,
Oliver Humphry,
Jacob Case,
Abel Petebone,
William Manly, Junr.,
Giles Petebone,
Abraham Petebone,
John Barker,
John Spencer,
Samuell Hulbert,
Gideon Burr,
Richard Cook,
Seth Loomiss,

Jonathan Leavingworth,
Thomas Humphries,
Moser Bellamy,
Aaron Bellamy,
John Hugens,
Ephraim Robinson,
John Andross, And
Miles Riggs.

All Being of the Colony of Connecticutt aforesaid, to the Number of One Hundred & Fifty-Six, The One-Twelve Hundredeth & Twenty-Four Part of the same Large Tract or parcell of Land aforesd, (of all Which Aforenamed Persons the sum aforesd Was Received,) Which said Given & Granted Tract of Land is Butted, Bounded & Described as followeth, viz.: Beginning from the One and fortieteth Degree of North Latitude, at ten miles Distance East of Suskahana River, and from thence with a Northward Line Ten miles East of the River to the end of the forty-second or Beginning of the forty-third Degree of North Latitude, And so to Extend West Two Degrees of Longatude One Hundred & Twenty miles, & from thence South to the Beginning of the forty-second degree, And from thence East to the Aforementioned Boundrie, whis is ten miles East of Suskahana River, Together with all and every the Mines, Minerals or Ore of What kind soever Standing, Growing, being found or to be found Upon any part or Parcel thereof, And all Other the Hereditaments And Appurtenances to the said Part or Tract belonging or in any Ways Appertaining, And the Reversion And Reversions, Remainder And Remainders, &c., TO have and to hold All the Above Granted And Bargained Premisses, With all the Appurtenances thereof Unto All the Above And forenamed persons in Manner And Proportion aforesaid, And to their Heirs and Assigns, And to their Only proper use, Benefitt And Behoof for Ever, as a free, Clear and Absolute Estate of Inheritance in fee simple, free of all Incumberances Whatsoever.

And we, the Aforesd Ca-hik-to-ton, Abraham Pieters, William Tarig-jo-ris, Brant Con-wig-no-ge, &c., &c., &c., Sachems and Cheifs as aforenam'd, Do hereby Covenant to and With All the Afore Named Grantees and Each and Every of them, that All and Untill the Ensealing & Delivery hereof, We Are the True, Sole and Lawfull Owners of the Above Granted Premises, and have Good Right, power and Authority to Bargain & Sell the same, in manner and form as Above Written; And furthermore, we the Aforenamed Ca-hik-to-ton, Abraham Pieters, William Tarig-jo-ris, Brant Con-wig-no-ge, Sachems and Cheifs as aforesd, do by these presents for Us our Heirs & Successors, Covenant and Promis to and With all and Every of the Afore Named Persons, Grantees in this Deed, All the Above Granted and Bargain'd Premisses & Appurtenances Thereof unto all and Every of the Afore nam'd Persons, Grantees in this Deed, And to their and every of their Heirs and Assigns in Manner and Proportion aforesd for Ever, to Warrant, Secure and Defend.

In Witness whereof, we have each of us hereunto set our Marks

and affiix'd our Seals, this Eleventh Day of July, in the Twenty-Eight Year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord George the Second of Great Britain, &c., King, Annoq Domini, One Thousand Seven hundred Fifty-Fore.

his Chief of the
KA-HIK-TO-TON ⋈ [S.]
mark. Sinkes.

his Chief of the
ABRAHAM ⋈ PIETERS, [S.]
mark Tribe of ye Bar.

his
WILLIAM ⋈ TA-RIG-IO-RIS. [S.]
mark.

his
BRANT ⋈ CO-WIG-NO-GE. [S.]
mark.

his Chief of
GAGIWIGTJONIE ⋈ [S.]
mark. Onondage.

Signed, Sealed & Deliver'd in the presence of
EPH. WILLIAMS, Junr.
JOSEPH KELLOG.

his Chief of
CANAGEGAIE ⋈ [S.]
mark. Pnodage.

his
SET ⋈ JESTARARIE. [S.]
mark.

his
JOHANIS ⋈ SOGEHOWANE. [S.]
mark.

his
SENOSIS ⋈ ONIDE. [S.]
mark.

his
JOHANIS ⋈ CANADEGAIE. [S.]
mark.

Signed, Sealed & Deliverd in Presence of
JAMES CHARYS.
MARTIN LYDIUS.

his
SCANERADIE ⋈ CAJOEGEN. [S.]
mark.
his
SCARONIADE ⋈ Half King. [S.]
mark.
his
CARISTAGO ⋈ ONIDE. [S.]
mark.

Signed, Sealed and Delivered in Presence of, March 4, 1785.
SIBERANT VAN SCHAICK, Junr.
JACOB VAN WOERT, Junr.
MARTIN LYDIUS.

his
AKWIJOTA ⋈ ONIDE. [S.]
mark.
his
JOHANIS ⋈ SEGNAGERAT. [S.]
mark.
his
CARGQEJESA ⋈ ONIDE. [S.]
mark.
his
NIKES ⋈ CARIGJAKLADIE. [S.]
mark.

Signed, Sealed & Delivered in Presence of
SIBRANT VAN SCHAICK, Junr.
JOHANIS J. WENDEL.

[The aforegoing is a True & Exact Copy of the Original Deed or Writing.

FITCH.

A Copy
JOHN W. LYDIUS.

* The foregoing is probably the Deed alluded to as obtained by Lydius—in letter of James Stevenson, Sept. 17, 1754, see it on page 170.

† See Colon. Rec. Vol. VI. p. 111, 257, 284, 291, 293. Also Miner's History of Wyoming, for an account of this transaction and Doed, p. 68, &c.

* A Journal in 1754.

June 13. Received Orders from Lt. Col1. Weiser, to march from Reading with all the Company remaining there, (the rest being commanded to Fort Augustus). Accordingly I sat out from Reading by Break of Day, on the

14th. Arrived at Lt. Col1. Weiser's where I rece'd Orders to march with the Company or Detachmt, to Fort Henry, and from there take a Detachmt of 20 Men, & continue 'till to Fort on Northkill. Accordingly on the

15th. In the morning took the said 20 men from Fort Henry of the New Levies, and marched strait Way to the said Fort accompanied with Captns Busse and Captns Smith, as soon as I arrived, I gave Ensign Harry (then Commander of the said Fort) Notice of my Orders, and Sent off two Men immediately to the Colonels with a Report of the Condition I found the fort in, & sent him a List of the new Levies who were detached from Captain Busse's Fort with me to this Fort.

16th. Captns Busse & Smith sat off abt 10 o'clock with a Scout of 10 men, which Captn Busse had ordered from his Company on the 15th. And Ensign Harry march'd out of the fort abt 12 o'clock, (after delivering it to me), with his Men to Fort Lebanon, according to Orders. Provision I found in the fort as follows, 5℔ Powder, 198℔ Flower, 10 Small Barrs of Lead, 15℔ of Beef and Pork, 3½℔ Candles.

17. I, with a Corporal & 20 Men, according to Orders from Lt. Col1. Weiser, went a scouting & ranging the Woods till to Fort Lebanon, where We arrived abt 2 o'clock in the Afternoon. We staid there all Night, being not able to scout any farther, or return home because of a heavy Rain.

18. Sat off from Fort Lebanon in the morning being rainy Weather, and ranged the Woods coming back, as before, with the same number of men, & arrived at Fort on Northkill about 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

19. Gave Orders to Serjt. Petr. Smith to Scout to Fort Lebanon, & to bring me Report the next Day of his Proceedings. Accordingly He arrived on the 20th abt 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and made Report that He had done according to his Orders, and that He had made no Discoveries. Rece'd a Letter by him from Captn Morgan, informing me that He had no News, &c.

21. Sent off Corporal Shafer to scout as before.

22d. Minister Shumaker came & preach'd a Sermon to the Company. The scout arrived from Fort Lebanon. The Corporal reported that Nothing strange had come to his Knowledge. A Scout of Captn Busse's arrived about 11 o'clock, and retd abt 4 towards

* The name of the officer is not attached to the Journal.

their fort, but upon the Indian Alarms they immediately ret^d back to my fort and gave me Notice: In the midst of the Rain, I sent on the first Notice, Serj^t Smith, with 18 men, and ordered them to divide themselves in two Parties.

June 23^d. Serj^t Smith ret^d and made Report that he arrived at Dietz's House about 10 o'clock in the Night, where they heard a Gun go off at Jacob Smith's about a mile from there. They Immediately sat off again from said Smith's towards the Place where the Gun went off, and Surrounded the House (according to my Orders.) They searched all the House but found no marks of Indians. From there they marched to Falks House in the Gap, and surrounded it, but found no Indians. From there they went to the Mountain, and arrived there at 2 o'clock in the morning, where Serj^t Smith, according to Orders, Waylay the Road in two Parties, and as soon as it was Day went back and buried the man that was killed, to wit, Peter Geisinger, who was shot, and killed the Day before. At Buruying him, they heard 5 Guns go off ab^t 2 miles from said Place, whereupon Serj^t Smith Immediately repaired to the Place, & divided themselves in two Parties, (I had sent off Corporal Sheffer with 8 men on the 22d to their assistance.) Serj^t Smith also makes Report that this Morning at 7 o'clock a Girl of ab^t 15 years, Daughter of Balser Schmidt, was taken Prisoner, by two Indians, whose Tracts they saw and followed, but to no Purpose. A Party of Captn Busse's Company went along from this and remained with my men all the Time. 15 or 16 of the Inhabitants came to me and apply'd for assistance. I ordered out several Detachm^ts to assist them.

24. I sat off with 20 men from this to Captn Busse's Fort along the mountain, & called at the Place where the Murder was comitted. Went up as far as the Gap of the Mountain, but as I found no Tracts there, I thought the Indians would be on this Side the mountains, therefore I went up along the mountains without opposition, till to Captn Busse's Fort, and as it rained very hard all Day and We went far about, We arrived there towards the Evening.

25. Sat off in the morning with the same number of men, and scoured the Woods back near the same Way back again, and arrived towards Evening in the fort, being rainy Weather.

26. Rece'd in the morning a Letter, for my positive Orders not to neglect my scouting towards Fort Lebanon, accordingly immediately called in my Detachm^ts. This afternoon a Woman living ab^t 1½ miles from here, came to the fort, and said she had seen an Indian just now in her Field, almost naked, & had a Gun, but said she did not stay to look long. I immediately sent off Serj^t Smith with 2 Parties, consisting of ab^t 20 men. They searched the Place, and found nothing, but saw 2 Barefeet Tracks. They divided into small Parties, & scoured the Woods till Evening & then ret^d to the fort, and as I had to Day but men sufficient to guard the fort, I sent out no scout. This Evening Intelligence came to me from the

Colonels, informing me that He had notice from Captn Orndt of 15 Indians going to fall on this Settlement or hereabouts. He ordered me therefore immediately to Send Notice thereof to Captn Busse's Fort, in order that it might be from there conveyed to Fort Swatara, accordingly I did.

June 27. Gave Orders to Serj^t Smith to go scouting the Woods between this and fort Lebanon, and if Captn Morgan thought that it was serviceable, to range some Way up Schuylkill, (as that Gap is their common Rendevouz.)

28. A scout of Captn Busse arrived in the Forenoon, & sat off again this afternoon.

29. In the Evening there came two men to the Fort, and reported that the Indians had invaded about 6 miles from this, ab^t 9 o'clock this morning. I was somewhat concerned that I had no sooner Intelligence of it, however I immediately sent off 12 men under 2 Corporals.

30. About noon the 2 Corporals returned and made the following Report. That Yesterday he could not reach the Place as they all were tired, but staid at a House till nigh Break of Day, and then sat off again. He did not immediately go to the Place where the man &c. were killed, but went somewhat further down towards Schuylkill, thinking that the Indians had invaded lower down, but as it was not so, He took another Rout, towards Schuylkill, thinking that perhaps the Indians had invaded lower down, but as it was not so he took another Rout towards the Place where the murder was committed, and as he came there, he found the man's Wife, (Fred. Myers) who had been at a Plough, and shot thro' both her Breasts, & was scalped. After that he went to look for the Man, whom they found dead & scalped some Way in the Woods. They took a Ladder & carried him to his Wife, where the Neighbour's came, & helped to bury them, after which they went towards the mountain, and scouted along the same & arrived here about 4 o'clock in the afternoon. It is reported by the Farmar's who saw the deceased a short while before, that he was mowing in his Meadow, and that his Children were about him, which makes them Believe that the Man, after he heard the Shot (which killed his Wife) he went to run off with only the youngest Child in his Arms, as the Man was Shot thro' the Body, and the Child is 1½ years of Age and is scalped, but yet alive, and is put to a Doctors. The other three, who were with their Father, are taken Prisoners; One of them is a Boy ab^t 10 years old, the other a Girl of 8 years, & the other a Boy of 6 years. There was a Baby, whom they found in a Dich, that the water was just to its Mouth. It was laying on its Back crying. It was taken up, and is like to do well. A Boy of one Reichard, of Eight years, was taken Prisoner at the same time. This was all done within half an Hour, as some Neighbours had been there in that Space of Time.

July 1. Serj^t Pet^r Smith ret^d with the Scout, and reported that

when he came to Ft Lebanon, Captn Morgan sent a Detachmt under Ensign Harry to the Gap of the Schuylkill. And that on the 28th last past, they ascended the Mountains, and when they came on the other Side, they found an encamping Place of the Indians, which, after Ensign Harry had surrounded with his Party, he sent off Serjt Smith with another Party to lay in ambush on the Indian Path all Night, but as nothing was to be heard of the Indians, they met again the next Day; The Indians, as he supposes, having left that Place the Day before. However, they found 2 Match Coats, one Spear, one Scalping Knife, some Virmilion, and 800 Black Wampum, also great Variety of Salves. The 29th they yet lay in Ambush in several Parties, but all to no Purpose. The Indians having, without Doubt, discovered them, in Case any was thereabouts. The 30th they sat off from the Hills, and arrived within a few Miles of this fort. And the 1 July, they arrived Accordingly in the Fort.

July 2. Being rainy Weather I sent no Scout, but put the Men to work to repair the Stoccadoes.

3. Early in the Morning my Men were all gathered, & I ordered a Corporal to Scout with a Party to Fort Lebanon, & return part of the Way and encamp in the Woods upon a rising Ground, that He might the easier discover a fire.

4. In the Morning a Scout of Captain Busse's arrived & returned again in the Afternoon. The Scout from Fort Lebanon returned & the Corporal made Report, that he had ranged as directed, but had made no Disscoveries.

5. Being a very rainy Day, could send no Scout.

6. Sent Serjt Smith on a Scout to range on this Side the Mountains, towards Schylkill.

7. A Scout of Captn Busse's arrived & set off again directly. In the Afternoon my Scout retd, but had no News. It raining hard, they lay in a House about 12 Miles from here.

8. Being appointed by his Honour the Governr a Day of Fast, I I sent no Scout, but had a Sermon read in the fort, where numbers of the Neighbours had assembled. A Scout of Captn Busse's arrived & retd directly.

9. Sent off Corpl Shefer with a Scout to Fort Lebanon, who retd on the

10. But brought no Intelligence. I rece'd Orders to repair to Reading, where I arrived this Afternoon.

11. Returned again into the Fort, where Serjt Smith informed me a Scout of Captn Busse's had arrived at the fort & retd. That he had ranged the Gap about 2 Miles from this, and had been over the Mountains, but had discovered nothing.

12th. A Scout of Captn Busse's arrived & retd Immediately. Sent a Corporal and a Scout to range to Fort Lebanon.

13. My Scout from Fort Lebanon returned. The Corporal reported he had ranged as ordered, but had no Discoveries.

14. Captn Busse arrived this Morning with a Party of Captn

Smith's & his own, to the Number of ab^{t} 28. I gave him 15 of my Men, in order to escort the Treaty at Easton.

July 15. It being a rainy Day I sent no Scout.

16. Continuing rainy Weather, I could send no Scout. In the Evening repaired some Stoccadoes, the Rain having held up.

17. The Water being high & the Bushes wet, I could send no Scout to Day. A Scout of Captn Busse's arrived, there being no Water between his & this fort.

18. Sent a Scout along the Mountains. They arrived in the Evening & had no Intellig^{ce}.

19. A Scout of Captn Busse's arrived & ret^{d} directly. Sent Serg^{t} Smith with a Scout to Fort Lebanon.

20. Serj^{t} Smith ret^{d} & reported that he had been at Fort Lebanon & ret^{d} some Part of the Way & laid in the Woods, but had made no fire. They made no Discovery. A Scout of Captn Busse's arrived and ret^{d} Instantly.

21. Having laid out Part of my Men to protect the Farmer's & the Rest being fatigued with Yesterday's Scout, I could send none to Day.

22^{d}. Sent a Scout along the Mountain who ret^{d} without Discovering any Thing.

July 23^{d}. I went scouting with a Party over the Mountains, and as it was very warm, I ordered the Men about Noon to rest themselves a Couple of Hours when We were over the Mountains. I then ordered them to march, and as We came to Schuylkill, I saw it was too high for the Men to wade through. I then got Horses, & towards Evening We got over Schuylkill. We arrived at Fort Lebanon towards Night, & was obliged to stay there that Night.

24th. Returned, and as soon as We came over on this Side of the Mountains, (it being yet early in the Day,) I took quite another Rout thro' the Woods, but made no Discovery, so We arrived at the Fort in the Evening. I had not been there one half an Hour bef^{r} three Farmars came and informed me that this Morning the Indians had taken a Boy of about 14 Years Prisoner, but had done no other Damage. I immediately sent off a party, but as it happened, the Boy being taken Prisoner in the Morning, Night came on before my Men could get there.

25. In the Morning I heard the Boy had escaped, and that he made Report that there were 4 white Men & 4 Indians with him, & that At Night he escaped, they had tied him and he was obliged to lay between them, but as they all got drunk, and fast asleep, he untied himself and ran off. He further says that when he was taken Prisoner he made, and that they struck him, & told him to be silent. I imagine they saw me with my Men go over the Day bef^{r} yesterday. The Indians were this Night ab^{t} the fort, but it was very dark, theref^{r} I did not sally out.

26. This Morning sent out Serj^{t} Smith, with 5 Men to search ab^{t} the fort for Tracks, but he only found one which was in a muddy

Place. But it being nothing but Stones, He could not follow the Tracts. It rained all Day very hard, therf^r I could send no Scout.

July 27th. Sent a Scout down on this Side of the Mountain. The Scout ret^d in the Evening having no Intelligence.

28th. A Scout of Captn Busse's arrived and ret^d ab^t Noon; Nothing Extraordinary happened.

29th. Sent Serj^t Smith with a Scout along the Mountains. He ret^d having nothing particular.

30th. A Scout of Lt Philip Weiser, from Captn Busse arrived. Having laid aside out several Detachments to assist the Farmars, I could send no Scout to Day.

31. Lieut. Weiser ret^d from his Scout. I called in the Detach-m^ts this Day, and sent out a Scout which ret^d this Evening.

Augt 1st. The Men being tired & their Feet in Blisters, I let them rest this Day.

2^d. Sent a Scout along the Mountains with Orders to range to Schuylkill.

3^d. The Corporal ret^d from his Scout and reported he had ranged as ordered.

4. A Scout of Captn Busse's arrived & ret^d the same Day. The Inhabitants desiring Assistance to bring in their Harvest, I gave them some men & went altho' a scouting, but as I left few Men in the Fort, I ret^d this Evening.

5. A Scout of Captn Busse's arrived & went off aft^r they had rested awhile. Sent Serj^t Smith with a Scout & ordered him to range the Woods on this Side the Mountain. He ret^d and had nothing particular.

6. Sent off a Scout. They went along on the foot of the Mountain & ret^d the Evening without any Intelligence.

7th. Being Sunday, I took a Party & went to Church with a Party, as the Church lies near the Mountain & the Minister could not come without a Guard.

8. The Centry fired at an Indian. The Indian stood behind a Bush ab^t 300 Yards off, and was viewing the fort. I went off with 18 Men and parted then in 6 Parties and went after the Indians, but could not come up with them. Went to clearing ab^t the fort, it being thick of Bushes.

9. Continued clearing & burning Brush so that on the South Side of the Fort, it is cleared a full Musquet Shot. A Party of Captain Busse's arrived.

10. Sent off a scouting Party, who ret^d and brought no Intelligence. This Night the Centry ab^t an Hour after Dark perceived that a fire which had been kindled to burn Brush, but was bef^r Night gone out, began to burn afresh; upon which he called the Serjeant of the Guard, who perceiving the same, ordered the Guard to fire, on which the Indians ran off. The Dogs pursued 'em, & kept barking after 'em, ab^t half a Mile. I had the Men all under Arms; but

every thing being now quiet, dismissed 'em, ordering them to be in continual Readiness with their Accoutrements on. In ab^{t} an Hour, the Indians ret^{d} and took a Firebrand out of the fire & ran off. They were immedeately fired on, but in vain.

Aug. 11. Ensign Biddle arrived at the fort with the Detachment of our Company that were in Easton.

12. A Scout of Captn Busse's arrived & ret^{d} directly.

13. This Day I left the fort in Order to go to the Col'^{s} agreeable to his Orders. I left Ensign Biddle in the fort.

Sent a Corporal to range towards Schuylkill, who ret^{d} the same Evening & the Corporal reported he had ranged as directed and had made no Discoveries. A Scout of Captn Busse's arrived, & ret^{d} the same Evening.

14. Being Sunday, Minister Shumoker* came here, & the Soldiers being fatigued with continual Scouting, there was no Scout to Day.

15. Ensign Biddle sent a Corporal with a Scout to range Eastwards towards Schuylkill & return under the Mountains. The Scout ret^{d} towards Evening, & the Corporal made Report, he had ranged as directed, and had no Intelligence.

16. Sent an express Serjeant with 15 Men to range Eastward along the Mountain. A Scout of Captn Busse's arrived & ret^{d} immediately. In the Afternoon, the Scout ret^{d}. The Serj^{t} made Report he had ranged as directed, but had no news.

17. Early this Morning Ensign Biddle sent Serj^{t} Smith with 10 men to escort Lieut. Col^{l} Weiser, who was expected here this Day.

This Day Col^{l} Weiser arrived, accompanied with Captn Busse and myself, together with the said Escort. The Col^{l} returned the same Day homewards, after We had chosen a place where to build a New Fort. Ensign Biddle went along with Copt^{n} Busse.

18. Sent off a Scout to Fort Lebanon, and ordered them to range the Woods between here & that fort till Night.

19. The Scout ret^{d} ab^{t} 4 O'Clock & informed that he had done according to his Orders. Captn Morgan came with the Scout and ret^{d} the same Evening.

20. Sent a Scout of 15 Men to range the Woods towards Schuylkill, into Windsor Township, & with Orders to call in some Detachments lying in the said Township, according to Lieut. Col'^{s} Orders.

21. The Scout ret^{d} with the Detachm^{ts}. The Corporal reported he had done according to his Orders, but had no News. The same Day Captn Busse & Ensign Biddle arrived from Fort Henry, Captain Busse ret^{d} the same Evening.

22^{d}. Rece'd an Express from Lieut. Col^{l} Weiser, with Orders to come to his House. In Pursuance of which, I sat off immediately, leaving Ensign Biddle in the fort.

* *Rev'd Shumaker*, was pastor of Lutheran congregation at Reading from 1754–57.

23d. A Scout of Captn Busse arrived. The Centry's heard the Indians distinctly whistle this Night in the fort Woods.

24. Ensign Biddle, according to Orders, with a Scout of 20 Men, went over the Mountains to Captain Morgan's Fort.

25. Lieut. Philip Weiser came here from Fort Henry, with a Scout.

26. Ensign Biddle retd from his Scout, having been at Captn Morgan's fort, & from thence scouted over the Mountains into Allemangle & from thence along the foot of the Mountains till here. This Day I also arrived in the fort from Lt. Coll. Weiser's.

27. Having Orders from Lt. Coll. Weiser's to look out for a proper Place to build a new fort, this being so bad, I began to lay out one on a spot which had been befr pitched upon by the Colonel and Captn Busse, But night coming, We could not finish.

28. Laid out the remaining Part of the fort.

29. Had some Brush cut, round the new intended fort, till Evening.

30. Sent off a Scout towards Schuylkill. They retd in the Evening, but made no returned with the remaining party of the Men. I continued clearing & burning of Brush.

31. Sent off Serjt Smith with a scouting Party, towards Schuylkill. He retd but made no Discovery.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Tuesday, the Sixth of August, 1755.*

Present.

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

ROBERT STRETTELL, JOSEPH TURNER, WILLIAM LOGAN, BENJAMIN SHOEMAKER, RICHARD PETERS, } Esqrs.

The Governor informed the Council, that having a standing Instruction from the Proprietaries to take all Opportunities of making another Purchase of Lands from the Six Nations, which was every Day become more Urgent by the great Numbers of People setling beyond the blue Hills over Sasquehanna, as all such Settlements were contrary to the Stipulations of this Government with those Indians, and might create Differences with them, He had recom-

* There must be an error in this date, as Hamilton was not then Governor—it should be 1754, and not 1755. Purchases were made or confirmed in 1754. See Colon. Rec., Vol. VI. p. 124, &c. See Minute of Aug. 6, 1754, Vol. VI., p. 57, when the same persons were present, though this does not appear on it. It may have been another session on the same day—this is apparently a Copy.

mended it to Mr. Penn and Mr. Peters to try, by all the means in their power to make a Purchase, and the Larger the better; and to facilitate this necessary Work, He had, by the advice of Mr. Weiser, dispatched John Shick Calamy, early in the Spring with a Message to the Six Nations, informing them of the necessity of another Purchase by reason of the Encrease of the Inhabitants, and their being not to be restrained from making Settlements beyond the Present Boundaries, and desiring they would enter into Treaty with Mr. Penn & Mr. Peters, who were to be at Albany in the Summer, and would have full Powers for that Purpose.

His Honour further said, that in Consequence of this Message a Treaty had been held with those Indians, and the Report thereof he would now Communicate to the Council, and accordingly it was read, and ordered to be entered.*

Indorsed.

Minutes of Council of the 6th of Augt., an Indian purchase.

Deposition, Peter Hogg, 1754.

Albany, *ss*:

Appeared before me, Peter Hogg, of Hosick, in the County of Albany, Yeoman, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of the Almighty God. Deposeth, and on his Oath, doth say, That this day, about three of the Clock, he left Hosick, where he then saw the greatest Part in a light Fire or Blaze; the Houses, Barns, and Barracks, that stood there, on the East side of the Hosick Kill or Creek. And further saith, that when he left Hosick this day, that he then, there heard one John Hogg say, that he had seen the Enemy at the distance of about one hundred yards, and that he guessed them to be above three hundred in number: And further, this Deponent saith Not.

PETER HOK.

Sworn before me, this 28th August, 1754,

ROBERT SAUNDERS,
Mayor.

New York.

A true Copy Examd. By

GEO. BANYAR, Secry.

Indorsed.—"Affidavit of the burning & destroying the Settlement at Hoseck."

* Some words wanting.

Deposition of Francis Claw, 1754.

City of New York, *ss.* :

Fran^s^. Claw, of Kinderhook, in the County of Albany, a Person of good Faith and Credit, personally came and appeared before me, Edward Holland, Esqr., Mayor of the said City, and being by me, sworn on the holy Evangelists of Almighty God, deposeth and saith, that on Friday Morning last, one Lodowick Planck, came to his, the Deponents House, at Kinderhook aforesaid, and informed him that the night before, he had lodged at the House of Captain Petrus Van Bergen, at Coxakey, about twenty miles to the Southward of Albany, and that about twelve o'Clock, that Night, an Express arrived from Albany, and informed Captain Van Bergen, that a Party of French and Indians, had taken and burnt Fort Massachusetts, near Hoseck, on Wednesday Morning last, and that in the Afternoon, on the same day, they had burnt several Houses at Hoseck, aforesaid : And the deponent, further saith Not.

his
FRANS F K CLAW.
mark.

Sworn this 2^d^. day of September, 1754, Before me,
EDW. HOLLAND.

A true Copy Ex^d^.,
GEO. BANYAR, Secry.

Indorsed—"Affidavit of the taking & burning of Fort Massachusetts."

Govr. De Lancey to Govr. Hamilton, 1754.

New York, 2^d^. September, 1754.

Sir :

On Saturday Evening last, I received a Letter from the Commissioners of Indian Affairs, acquainting me, that they had received a Report the Sunday before, that a number of French Indians were gone out a fighting towards Hoseck, and on Wednesday last, they had the Information herewith inclosed, which, together with an affidavit taken here this day, I thought necessary to send you.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient,
& most humble
Servant,
JAMES DE LANCEY.

The Honble. Governor Hamilton.

Gov. Dinwiddie's Speech on Proroguing the Assembly of Virginia, 1754.

The Speech of the Honble Robert Dinwiddie, Esqr, His Majesty's Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief of ye Colony and Dominion of Virginia, at ye Prorogation of ye General Assembly.

Gentlemen of ye Council, M. Speaker, and Gentlemen of ye House of Burgesses:

The impending Danger from ye violent Incursions of ye French, their Threats and Depredations, were ye only Motives for calling you together at this time. And ye Lives, Liberties, & Properties of your Constituents are in such imminent Hazard, I did not in ye least doubt but that you would, before this, have strengthened my Hands with a proper Supply to frustrate their malicious Intentions, and especially, when I receiv'd from you such strong and repeated Assurances, that you "Were Determined, on your Parts, to withstand ye impending "Danger, & to persue every measure in your Power to defeat these "pernicious Designs of your Enemies," I thought I might reasonably admit ye pleasing Hopes, that "You would effectually provide for "your Country's Preservation, & convince ye World, that you had "nothing more at heart than a zealous Discharge of your Duty to ye "best of Kings, & ye sincerest Regard for your Country's Welfare."

How great then, Gentlemen, must be my Surprize, and with what amazement must that Country & ye World see such high Expectations cast down so low! See you call'd upon in ye Day of your Country's Distress; hear you declaring your knowledge of her Danger, and professing your most ardent Zeal for her Service, and yet find these Declarations only an unavailing Flourish of Words, & that, inconsistent with them, & ye purposes of your Meeting, you withhold your Aid, & thereby leave ye Enemy at full Liberty to perpetrate their destructive & unjust Designs.

The independent Companies, ordered by his Majesty, cloathed & paid by him, and now employed in your immediate Defence, you absolutely, by your Resolve to me, deny Subsistence to, A thing unprecedented in any of his Majesty's Dominions, where they have been employ'd in their Defence, from Incursions or threatened Invasions.

I have my Master's Service, & ye Safety & Honor of Virginia so much & so truly at Heart, that I can not but be deeply affected at a Conduct so contrary to her Interest, and not altogether unconcern'd for you, Gentlemen of ye House of Burgesses, that you should appear in so bad a Light to his Majesty, & give such ill Impressions to ye neighbouring Colonies.

However, as I find you are determined not to do what your Duty to his Majesty, & ye present obvious Danger indispensably require, I think it proper, to avoid aggravating unnecessary Expences, parti-

cularly inconvenient at this time, and therefore to put an End to your Continuance here, I do prorogue you to ye Seventeenth Day of October next, & you are accordingly prorogued to that Time.

Wm. Alexander to R. Peters, 1754.

Dear Sir:

I think I told you last Winter of a Gent we have here, very extraordinary for teaching writing in a Short time in great perfection. 'Tis Mr. Elfingston, who is the bearer of this; he intends to Stay at Philadelphia Next Winter if he meets with Incouragement, and has asked of me to recommend him to some Gent there, I know of none more proper than Mr. Peters, and I hope he'll pardon the Liberty I take in doing so, as he is a promoter of every thing of Public use. The specimens Mr. Elfingston will shew you, sufficiently say what he can do, some of them are so surprising that they almost want a Voucher to make the honesty of them belived, most of those he has taught here I am acquainted with, and know that their Specimens were taken very impartially. I am

Dr Sir,
Your Most Humble Servt,
WM. ALEXANDER.

New York,
Sepr. 16th, 1754.

Direction.

To Richard Peters, Esqr., Philadelphia, pr Mr. Elfingston.

Extracts of Letter from James Stevenson to —— 1754.

Dear Sir:

I am not Certain that the French are Concerned in the late Incursions and Depredations made on our Country, But so it is, that 16 Houses with Barns & Barracks belonging to them are burnt Down and Destroyed, with the wheat that was in them, their whole Crope, and a great Number of Cattle kill'd.

It is probable that if the people had not gott some Intelligence of their Danger the Day before, they would have been Massacred.

Out of four Men that were together in a Mill, only one is escaped clear. One was killed, Scalp'd and most barbarously butchered, another wounded, a third missing. Some Indians have told here in Town, that they had seen on the Carrying Place, those Indians who

had been at Hosick, but they had no Prisoner, only 2 Scalps, so it is likely they have kill^d and Scalp'd the other Man.

I am afraid the French will Stir up our own Indians with some Orondax, who they pretend they cannot hinder, to keep us in Constant Alarm; they will thereby oblige our People to leave their Settlements, which a great Number have already done, and think also, it will prevent our sending Assistance to Ohio.

Some of our People who were fled, are gone back to thresh and bring away their Wheat, but their Summer Grain, Pease, Oats and Indian Corn, are all Destroyed.

I desired my Son to give you a hint that Lydius* had been up amongst the Indians and procur'd a Deed† in behalf of the Connecticut Government, for the Lands, or perhaps only part of the Lands, that you purchased for your Government. I am since informed that the fact is true. Above 30 Oneydes are now in Town. It is pretended they came to speak with the Com^rs of Indian Affairs, but if my Information be Right, they came down on a Message was sent to them by Lydius, and they are mostly at his House. The Com^rs knew nothing of their coming till the Interpreter sent Word from Schonectady, that they were so far as Coll^o Johnson's on their Way. I am assured by one of the Witnesses to the Deed, that Several of our Mohawks signed in Lydius's own House, besides those that Signed in their own Castle.

According to your Desire, M^r. Claus gott the Map that you desired from Lydius, and I gott M^r. Bleecker to Copy it, for which he charg'd forty Shillings, and I paid him. He says he believes it to be very exact, and M^r. Lydius says that the Original was made from an Exact Survey taken by Order of the King of Ffrance, I have sent it with this to the Care of M^r. William Alexander. I am with the most sincere Respect,

Dear Sir,

Your most obliged humble Sev^rt,

JAS. STEVENSON.

Albany, September 17th, 1754.

Indorsed.

James Stevenson, 17 Sept^r, 1754.

Read in Council, 14 Jan'ry, 1755.

* See Colon. Rec. Vol. VI. pp. 111, 112, 248, 284, 291, 293, 481.

† See the deed on page 147, it is probably that alluded to above.

R. Peters to Gov. Morris, 1754.

Honoured Sir:

I am obliged to You for your kind Letter, and heartily congratulate You on your Arrival. We were really in pain for You, having received accounts of your having left London in June.

Be so good as to let me know when You set out, time enough to wait on you at Brunswick, being impatient to make you a Tender of my Services, which I shall do with infinite Pleasure.

It may not be amiss to inform you, that by our Constitution, the Sheriffs, Assembly Men and other Officers, are annually elected on the 1st 8ber, as I imagine you would chuse to be settled in both your Governments before that time, and your Journey to Newcastle will take up at least three days. I am,

Your Honour's
Most obedient
humble Servant,
RICHARD PETERS.

Philad^a, 19 Sept^r, 1754.

Indorsed.—Septem^r 19, 1754, Richard Peters.

Gov'r Belcher, of N. J., to Gov'r Morris, 1754.

S^r:

I have Your Honour's Favour, of the 23^d Instant, & thank your Care of my Packet from M^r. Partridge, which mentions my Son's Appointment to the Chief Justiceship of Nova Scotia, & I am oblidg'd to you, for the kind Notice you take of this Matter.

I congratulate you, S^r, in the Commission you are honourd with, for one of the best Governments on the English Continent, & on your safe Arrival so far in your way to it, where may you long enjoy it, with much Health & with much Ease in your Administration.

As you Pass through this Town to Pennsylvania, I shall be glad to see you at my little Cottage, & at all times shall take Pleasure, in Cultivating the best Correspondence with your Honour, for advancing His Majesty^s Honour & Interest, together with the welfare & Prosperity of the People, where we have the Honour severally to preside.

My Wife returns you her Complyments, & I am,

S^r, Your Honours
Most obedient &
Most humble
Servant,
J. BELCHER.

Elizabeth Town, (N. J.)
Septr 25, 1754.
L. Govr. Morris.

Indorsed.—Sepr 25, 1754, Govr. Belcher.

George Croghan to late Governor Hamilton, 1754.

Sep^{tr}. ye 27th, 1754.

May itt Plese your Honour:

Scence M^{r}. Wiser Left this, an Indian of the Six Nations, Named Izerall, kill^{d} one Joseph Campble, an Indian Treader, at ye house of one Antoney Tomsons, att ye foott of the Tuskerrora Valley, Near Pernalls knab, as Soon as I heard itt I went Down to Tomsons, and tuck Several of ye Cheefs of ye Indians with me, where I meett Will: Maxwell, Esqr., ye Indian had Made his Escape before I gott there; I tuck the qualafycations of ye Persons that was present att the Murder and Deliverd them to M^{r}. Maxwell, to be sent to ye honour, with a Speech made by ye Cheeffs of the Indians, on that ocation, which I Supose y^{r} honour has Received.

I have hard many acounts from Ohio Scence M^{r}. Wiser Left this, all which agree that ye French has Received a Rainforcement of Men and Provisions from Canaday, to ye fort in purticklor; yesterday an Indian Return^{d} hear, whome I had sent to ye fort for Intilagence, he Confirms ye above acounts, and further says, there was about 60 French Indians Came there while he was there, and they Expected better than 200 more Every Day; he says that ye French Designs to Send those Indians with Some French in Several partys to anoy ye back Settlements, which ye French says, will putt a Stop to any English forses marching out this fall to atack them; this Indian Likewise says, that ye French will Do there Indavor to have ye half king Sarvnte, Capt. Montour and my self kill^{d} this fall; this Indian, I think, is to be blev^{d}, if there Can be any Creadett given to what an Indian Sayes; he presis me Strongly to Lave this plaee and nott live in any of ye back parts, this Schame of Sending Several partys to annoy ye back Settlements Seems so Like a peice of French polisey that I Cant help thinking itt true. I hear from Coll. Innes, that for Cartian, there has been Some French Indians att thire Camp, at Wills Creek, and fire^{d} on ye Centrey in ye Dead time of Night, if ye French Prosecute this Schame I dont know what will become of ye back parts of Cumberland County which Lays quite Nacked, ye back parts of Virginia and Mareyland is cover^{d} by ye English Camp, So that most of the Inhabitence thare are Safe. I wold have wrote to y^{r} honour before Now on this head, only Weated ye Return of this Indian Mesinger, whose acount I Realy think is to be depended on; the Indians hear Seems Very unescy att thire Long Stay, as they have heard Nothing from ye Governor of Verginia nor y^{r} honour Scence M^{r}. Wiser went away, nor Do they See ye English makeing any Preperations to atack ye French, which Seems to give them a greatt Dale of Concern. I believe Several of the Indians will Soon go to ye Six Nation Cuntrey, and then I Supose ye Rest will be oblidg^{d} to fall in with y^{e}

French if this hapens, then all those back Settlements will be Left to ye Mercy of an outreaguss Enemy.

I beg y^r honours pardon for menshoning those Consequences, which must Certianly atend ye Slow moshens of ye English governments, as they are well known to y^r honour unready, and that I am Scencable y^r honour had Don all in y^r power for ye Securety of those parts. I hope as Soon as his honour, Govêrnor Morris, is a Rived I Shall hear what is to be Don with those Indians, for I a Shure y^r honour itt will nott be in my power to keep them together much Longar.

I am y^r honours most humble
and most obeedent
Servant,
GEO : CROGHAN.

Aughick, old town.

Indorsed.

M^r. Croghan's Letter, Aughwick, Sept. 27th, 1754, Relating to a murder committed by an Indian named Israels, & to ye Designs of ye French on ye back Settlements.

Read in Council, 14 8ber, 1754.*

Daniel Claus to late Gov. Hamilton, 1754.

Honoured Sir:

I receivd the favour of yours, the 13th inst^t., with a Letter inclosed to Col^l. Johnson, one to Henry, and a Passport, the Colonels Letter I immediately delivered. I informd him also, of what your Honour told me, concerning the Jensing,† that you had heard of Israel Bemperton, of its being bought up again, & desired me to remember you of writing to the Col^l. abt. it, but as I understand you made no mention of it in the last, I immagine he would be glad to have an acco^t. of its Certainty, as it would be of great advantage to him, to send the parcell, lying at his house, with the First Vessel to Market.

The first piece of News the Col^l. was pleasd to acquaint me with, & at the same Time desired me to give your Honour some Intelligence, off which he would have done himself, did not some pressant Business call him from home. Was the Villianous Scheme, John Lidius, of Albany engaged in, to serve the Connecticut People in buying the Lands at Susquehanna, the said Province was contriving to buy of the 6 Nations this year passed, and that after the sum of 1500 Dollars being put in his Hands, as appears by a Letter from

* Marked read Oct. 14, in Council, when Governor Morris was present—he arrived about the 3d. Gov. H. having presided at the meeting on the 3d, and his Commission, &c., was published at the Court House. See Col. Rec. Vol. VI. p. 143–145.

† Genseng, probably.

Captn. Jew to Col. Johnson, he went in the following clandestine manner to work, and with tempting the Ind^{s}. he could prevail upon, with the Plenty of Dollars, got the following subscriptions to his Deed, viz:

Gahikdote, alias Grote Younge, the Head of ye Senekers, Atsinoughiata, alias ye Bunt, & Canatsiagaye, 2 Onontaga; those he got yet after the Treaty was over, & the Commissioners gone; suppose when they were drunk. Afterwards, he, under a vain Pretence, took a Ride to Canajochery, as he told me himself, when I askd for the Map of Crown point to get a Copy off, that he had been there to buy a Span of Horses, and by laying down the Bag of Dollars, had, Abraham, Nickas, Hendricks Brothers, and Tarraghioris, to sign.

Then he passd in his Way home, the lower Mohawk Castle, & invited 4 of the Sachems to his house, ab^{t}. some Business he had to propose to them, and when they came there, he calld one after another in a Room by himself, & laid the Deed before them, & shewed the Subscriptions of the other Nations, & by many false persuasions, with the offer of 20 Dollars each, brought them to sign their Names, which are Tsistarare, Canadagaye, Sotsikowano, & Gaweghnog. He also gave a Call to the Oneidoes, & accordingly, a good Many of them who were absent at the Treaty came down, when Lidius treated them plentifully with Victuals and Drink, & then laid 300 Dollars before them, saying that with this he only would acquaint them with his Intent, & that if they would consent to his Proposals, he would deliver them 400 p^{ds}. more. When afterwards, they went off, and as they in their Return told Col^{l}. Johnson, without signing, but that would first consider ab^{t}. it. He then askd them, if they did not think this a very dishonest & dirty action of Lidius, & if they was not sensible what ill Consequences between the Province of Connecticut & Pennsylvania would happen, which latter, had long ago the Promise of Pre-emtion of those Lands from the five Nations, & that he would not take his House full of Money to engage in so wrong a Thing. They seemed to be concerned ab^{t}. it, but had nothing else to reply, but that the Subscription of the other Nations, & Temptation of the Money, brought them to consent. The Night afore last, Canudagaye, one of the Mohawks which signd ye Deed, lodged at Col^{l}. Johnsons, when after Supper he was called up, & a little while after, the Col^{l}. in my presence, began abt. the same Affair, & very ambly cleard up to him the Villanous & dishonest Proceedings of Lidius, and how it would lessen the Credit of the 6 Nations, who not only many Years ago, but by Treaties held a few years since, yea, in the very last Treaty at Albany, promisd the Pre-emtion of the same Lands to Onas, and to none else, as they were in his Bounds, & in case the New England People was to get 'em now, they immediately would settle there, & drive the Ind^{s}. from their best land, which Onas would not have done, &c. The Indian was quite stunnd, & after a little Pause, said, that when

Lidius called him in, he argued with Lidius, that he should have proposed the thing at the last Treaty, when all the Nations was present, he therefore must suspect something by it, but Lidius made a great many vain Excuses, & told him the Lands were in Ohio, & shewed the Subscriptions of the Rest, who he said had nothing against it. The Indian added himself, how he believd Lidius was a very bad Man, who liked the French better then the English, and as he supposed, undertook this, chiefly to set the two Provinces against one another, that the French might be the less hindred in their Undertakings. I heard Col^l. Johnson give Lidius the Character of a very dangerous Person in any Province, as he was certain of his being a Roman Catolick, having heard it of a Frenchmen, who was in Church in Canada, when he made his Confession to the Priest, & would doubt, whether Lidius woud take the Oath of Allegiance or no.

To give your Honour an Acc^t. of all the false and unjust Stories the French spread among the 6 Nations, abt. Washington's Defeat, would take more then one sheat; the only Remedy for the English to convince the Ind^s. of the Contrary, will be, to shew them that they can do more by Strength, then the French with their idle stories; but the sooner the better, otherways the French will gain so much by, as to get all the Indians in their Alliance, which then may prove a very hard Task to get the better of em, in particular as there is a Confirmed Acc^t. of a great many of the 6 Nations being gone lately to Canada, notwithstanding the Commissioners thought to have stopd em from going, but they neither fear nor Regard them, & by what I understood by ye Interpreter, many of them, resolvd not to listen to what was desired or sent to them by the Com^rs., but that their fire was burning at Col^l. Johnsons. The last Treaty of Pease they made with the French Ind^s., seems quite odd and unnational, as they used the Terms, that in case a War shoud brake out, they would refuse acting, neither should they listen, if the King of France would desire their assistance, when they came to the Mohawks, they had their Joke abt. it, & calld em fools; by what I understand, their real Scheme was, to draw the Mohawks with them, and actually prevailed upon several families to go along.

Henry expects me every Day, & shall take the first opportunity I can get, to set off for his Castle. My Letter to the Honble Proprietaries, will come with the next. In the mean while, I am, with my humble Respect to the Govr.

Sir, Your very humble
Servant,
DAN. CLAUS.*

P. S.—There is some Report here of a fresh Engagement, at Ohio. I wonder if there is any Certainty in it.

Rece^d. by Post, 8ber, 1754.

* No date. It was probably late in Sept., as it is marked "rec'd Oct. 8, 1754."

(Copy.) Gov. Morris to Gov. Dinwiddie of Virg'a, 1754.

I have chosen to give you this earliest Intelligence of my having taken upon me ye Government of this Province,* thereby to convince you of ye particular Regard & ye hearty desire I have of continuing that friendly Correspondence which was carryd on between you & the late Govr, and which, in my opinion, ought to Su'sist among his Majesty's servants on this Contin^{t}, ye likeliest Method of promoting ye Glory & Interest of His Majesty, & ye Welfare of ye several Provinces. A Confidence in each other is ye surest & only Basis of an Union of Councils, & I shall, therefore, make bold on every occasion to acquaint you with whatever Steps I shall take for ye Publick Service, and shall always shew ye utmost Regard to any Remarks or Improvements you shall please to communicate on them.

I have rec'd Advices from Aughwick, which say y^{t} all their Advices from Ohio agree yt ye French have rec'd a Reinforcement of Men & Provisions at ye fort of Partuklor; y^{t} an Indian sent thither reports y^{t} 60 French Indians arrived while He was there; y^{t} they expected 200 more, & y^{t} they Design'd to send them out in Parties to disturb our Back settlements as ye likeliest method to prevent our marching out to attack them.

That our Indians seem very uneasy at our making no preparations to attack ye French; y^{t} some of them are preparing to go to ye six Nations Country, & y^{t} ye rest he fears will be obliged to fall in with ye Enemy.

I have likewise had late Acc^{t} from Paxton, Oct. ye 5th, y^{t} on ye 4th ye Half King died there, & y^{t} his Friends impute his Death to French Witchcraft, & seem very eager to Revenge it. But this last article being only from a Trader there, is not much to be depended on.

I am much obliged to you for y^{r} Comp^{ts} by Govr Hamilton, & do assure you I shall let slip no opportunity of convincing you how much

I am, S^{r}

Y^{r} most obed^{nt}

Hum^{ble} Ser^{nt}.

Directed.—Govr Dinwiddie.

* On Oct. 3d, 1754. See Col. Rec. Vol. VI. pp. 143–5.

John Harris to late Gov. Hamilton, 1754.

May it please your Honour:

At the Earnest Request of Monacatootha, (one of the Chiefs of the Six Nations,) I take this opportunity to Inform your Honour of the death of the half King, who departed this Life last night; there is about Twenty Indians here, who waits to See him buried, and then Intends for Aughwick Immediately; he likewise desired that the melancholy news might be forwarded, with all possible Dispatch, to his honour the Governor of Virginia. Those Indians that are here blame the French for his death, by bewitching him, as they had a Conjurer to inquire into the Cause a few days before he died, and it is his opinion, together with his Relations, that the French have been the cause of their great Man's death, by reason of his Striking them lately, for which they seem to threaten immediate Revenge, and desired me to let it be known. All the Indians that are here are in great trouble, especially his Relations. I have sent an account to Conrad Wiser at Shawmokin, this Day, who I expect will be down upon Notice. I humbly presume that his death is a very great loss, especially at this Critical Time.

I am your Honour's
most obedient and
most h'ble Servt.
JOHN HARRIS.*

Paxton, October 5th, 1754.

To the Honourable James Hamilton, Esqr,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief in the
Province of Pennsylvania.—Philadelphia.

Gov. Shirley's Instructions, 1754.

George R.:

Whereas We have thought fit to raise a Regiment of Foot under your Command, for the Service & Defence of our Provinces in America, which is to consist of Ten Companies, of four Serjeants, four Corporals, two Drummers, and one hundred Effective Private Men in each Company, besides Commission Officers; These are to Authorize you by Beat of Drum or otherwise, to raise so many Voluntiers, in any of our Provinces in America, as shall be wanting to compleat the said Regiment to the above-mentioned numbers. And all Magistrates, Justices of the Peace, Constables, & other our Officers whom

* The Governor alludes to another Letter, giving also an account of the death of the Half King from Mr. H., dated Oct. 29th, which will be found in Colonial Records, Vol. VI. p. 184.

it may concern, are hereby required to be Assisting unto you in providing Quarters, in pressing Carriages, & otherwise, as there shall be Occasion. And we do hereby further direct, that this our Order, shall remain in force for twelve months from the date hereof, & no longer.

Given at our Court, at Kensington, this 7th day of Octo^{r}, 1754, in the twenty-eighth year of our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command.

H. FOX.

To our Trusty & well-beloved William Shirley, Esqr, Colonel of one of our Regim^{ts} of foot to be forthwith rais'd for the Service & defence of our Provinces in America, or to the Officer or Officers appointed by you to raise Voluntiers for our s^{d} Regiment.

A true Copy, W. SHIRLEY.

—

To Lieutenant Philip Godfrid Kast:

By Virtue of His Majesty's Royal Pleasure, & the within written Authority thereby to me given, I do hereby appoint you to be an Officer for inlisting Voluntiers for compleating the within mentioned Regiment, now raising under my Command, within any of his Majesty's Provinces in North America.

Given under my Hand at Boston, the 26th Day of December, 1754.

W. SHIRLEY.

Gov. Morris to Gov. De Lancey, 1754.

Copy.

Phil^{da}, Octr 10th, 1754.

Permit me to acquaint you y^{t} I have taken upon me ye Government of this Province, & shall be glad on all occasions to promote his Majesty's Service, & ye general Interest of ye Colonys, & as nothing will more contribute to that End than an Union of Councils and a good Correspondence between ye several Governors, you will allow me to communicate to you, from time to time, ye several steps I shall take for ye Public Service, upon which you will be good enough to give me your thoughts, which I shall ever pay a great regard to.

I have accounts from Paxton of ye Death of ye Half King, a Chief of ye Indians,* his Friends, it seems, attribute his death to French witchcraft, & threaten revenge, but this being only ye opinion of an Indian Trader, is not to be depended on.

* See page 178, and also Col. Rec. Vol. VI., p. 184.

I have only to recommend my Nephew to y^r Countenance & Protection, & to assure you that I am, S^r,

Y^r most Obed^t Hum^ble Ser^vt

ROBT. H. MORRIS.

Govr. De Lancey.

Indorsed.

To Govr. Delancey To notify Govr. Morris's, taking on him ye Government of ye Province of Pens^nia, & an Acc^t of ye Death of ye Half King.

Oct. 10th, 1754.

Late Gov. Thomas to Gov. Morris, 1754.

Antigua, Oct^br. 15th, 1754.

Dr Sir:

It was with great pleasure that I heard of Your Appointment, of Your Health at Madera, and of Your having so near reached Your Port, from whence I conclude that I may congratulate You on Your safe Arrival in Pennsylvania. You are fallen into a very troublesome time, & will meet with great opposition; but I hope, for the honour of the English Name and the general security of the Colonys, that You will carry your point. But be that as it will, I am shure You will gain Honour in the pursuit. You have now got some Neighbours that will be very troublesome to You, if You let them rest. You must either drive them back to their Lakes, or they will drive You into the Sea. They want a good Port upon that Sea; and if the Northern Colonys do not speedily unite, and prosecute the Affairs with vigour, they will carry their point.

As to my self I enjoy a good state of Health, I am well with all the Islands in my Government, and live in perfect Amity with every Individual in them. I am uneasy, however, under the apprehension that the North American War may become general. We are here by no means prepared for it, nor are we in circumstances to put ourselves into a proper posture of Defence. Our Government has its hands full, and labours under a Debt of Eighty Millions. But God is above all.

M^rs. Thomas & my Daughters join in Compliments to You, and Your Commands will be at all times agreeable to

D^r. Sir, Your most obedient,

& most humb^le Servt,

GEO: THOMAS.*

The Honble Robt. Hunter Morris, Esqr.

Indorsed.

Letter from Coll. Thomas, Oc^r. 15, 1754, Antigua.

* Gov. Hamilton having resigned, Robert Hunter Morris, late Chief Justice of New Jersey, succeeds him. See Colon. Rec. Vol. VI., p. 143. The foregoing letter is from the former Gov. Thomas.

Gov. Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1754.

Boston, October 21st, 1754.

Dear Sir,

Mr. Franklin hath deliver'd me the favour of your Letter, together with one from Sir Thomas Robinson, for your care of which, and the pleasure your own gave me, I am much oblig'd to you; and finding by last Week's Prints that you was arriv'd within your Governmt, I take the first Opportunity of congratulating you upon it, and wishing you an Easy and Happy Administration. If it is not a successful one for the Publick, I am satisfy'd it will be the People's fault.

I experienc'd too much, whilst I was in Europe last, the Spirit wch you observe still prevails at home; But the letter I received from Sir Thomas Robinson was a very encouraging one, and I have the pleasure at least to flatter myself with hopes of better things from them.

I have no leaf in my book for managing a Quaker Assembly, If I had, it should be at your Service. Your predecessor, Mr. Hamilton, to whom I would beg the favour of you to make my Complimts, will give you a better insight into the Light within them, than I can pretend to do.

The Best Advice I can give you, is to lose no time for promoting the Plan of an Union of the Colonies for their mutual Defence to be concerted at home, and establish'd by Act of Parliamt, as soon as is possible. The proceedings of the Commrs at Albany, from the general Governmts, will shew you the necessity of it. I am labouring this point, totis viribus; It would ease you of a great part of the Burthen, your Governmt may probably bring upon you otherwise, in the managemt of Military and Indian Affairs.

I have one thing to mention to you, wch I own gives me some surprize; I had, at the desire of the Council, wrote to Mr. De Lancey to know, whether there was any foundation for the report that the Commissioners for Indian Affairs, at Albany, had made a Treaty of Neutrality for the Governmt of New York with the Cagnawaga Indians, and I find by his answer to me that it is so; but he intimates that it is made for all the Colonies. I am to have Copies from him of all Papers relating to it. If a neutrality is concluded for this Governmt with those Indians, it is what was a Dead Secret to us before, I believe it would have been more satisfactory to this Governmt if the Treaty had been transacted by the Commissioners from the Colonies, when at Albany. I am perswaded we shall never intrust the care of any of Our Interests with the Commrs of Indian Affairs at Albany.

I shall take a great Pleasure in maintaining a strict Correspondence with you, both Publick and Private; am obliged to you for

the Expreesions of your friendship to my family, and there is no person who more sincerely desires to have it in his Power to give you proofs of a real Esteem and friendship for you, than,

Dear Sir,

Your most faithful,

Humble Servant,

W. SHIRLEY.

P. S. Be pleas'd to make my Complim^ts to Govr Tinker.

I will send you a copy of my Conference with the Eastern Indians by M^r. Franklin, with whom I shall have the Pleasure of drinking your health to day at the Province House.

Indorsed.

Govr Shirley—That Delancey, in his letter, Had Owned that a treaty of Neutrality was concluded wth the Cognawaga's by the Governm^t of N. York, recommending to me to press the Union of the Colonies.

Octo^r 21, 1754.

Gov. Belcher to Gov. Morris, 1754.

Sir,

It was but yesterday, that I receiv'd your Honour's Favour, of the 13 Curr^t, so irregular is the Post, & often carries my Letters to N. York, & which may sometimes prove very injurious to His Majesty's Service, and this I shall represent to M^r. Franklin.

I afresh congratulate your Honour, in taking Possession of the fine Government, to which you have been appointed.

It is more than eighteen years since I have been under His present Majesty's Commissions, for three several Governments, in all which Time I have taken much Pleasure in remembring that excellent old Maxim of, *a Deo Lex, a Lege Rex;* in the Observation whereof, His Majesty has greatly honour'd Himself, as well as endear'd himself to His People, for the greatest Prince will find himself most easy, while he makes the Laws of God & Man, the Rule of his Government.

And will you allow me, S^r, to tell you an old Story of *Cræsus*, one of the Grecian Emperours, &c., of *Solon*, the wise Man of Greece at that Time, the Emperour ask'd *Solon* to write him a Book of Instructions, for his Conduct in his Government, which Solon took some Considerable time to do, & then brought the Emperour a large Folio, in answer to his Direction, in every Page whereof, was written in Capitals, only the Word, MODERATION; in the Observance whereof, I believe no Prince or Governour, ever found Reason to repent; after saying these things, I again assure you, that I shall

with great Alacrity, cultivate the best Correspondence, with your Honour, for His Majesty's Service & Interest, & in any thing that may lie in my Power, for your Ease in your Administration, & thus I remain,

Sir,

Your Honour's most

Obedient & most

Humble Servant,

J. BELCHER.

Elizabeth Town, (N. J.)
Oct. 24, 1754.

L Govr Morris.

Address to Gov. Morris from Lutheran Churches, 1754.

May it please Your Honour,

We, His Maj'^ys most dutifull and loyal Subjects, the vnited Evan^gelical Ministres of the Lutheran Church of the Province of Pensilvania, beg leave, humbly, to congratulate Your Honour to your happy Promotion to the Government of this Province of Pensilvania. We cannot but be persuaded as well from the great Talents, which a favourable Nature hath bestowed upon Your Honour, as also from the just Administration of your former weighty Office, that this Province is happy, in particular in those Critical and troublesome Times to have such an able Subject at the Helm of the Government, and therefore we wish and pray to God, that He will graciously Support Strengthen, and assist Your Honour in the Administration of Your Gouvernement, that He will incline the Hearts of the other Membres of the Legislature to concurr and assist in all what your Wisdom shall devise and project for the Savety and Wellfare of this Province, and that He will crown all your Endeaveors with Success. We further make bold, to recomend to Your Honour the Churches and Congregations comitted to our Spiritual Care, and humbly beseech Your Honour to Protect us in our Liberties and Priviledges. And whereas, we and our Congregations, and consequently His Maj^ys good and loyall Subjects are very much disturbed, and the Kings as well as the Churches Peace broken by such Vagabonds, as from Time to Time are brought into the Province by the Newlanders, who pretend to be Preachers but are inordinate, vicious persons, whom the Newlanders make use of abroad to persuade the People, to inlist, and tell them that here they could be Ministers, which persons corrupt the Morals of People and make great disturbances drawing disorderly People after them, which in the End will tend

to an entyre oversetting of all orderly Ministers and introduce Barbarism, Ignorance and immorality, which will be greatly detrimental to the Public. Therefore we humbly pray your Honour, that if any means be possible, to remedy and prevent for the Future Such Mischief, that Your Honour might be pleased, to apply such means, as Your Wisdom will Suggest. And we promise on our Part, that we Shall do our best Endeavors to keep Peace and good Ordres in our Congregations, and to pray constantly for Your Honours as well as the whole Country's Welfare, remaining allways

Your Honours
most humble and obedient Servants,
the vnited Evangelical Ministers of
the Lutheran Church.

Ministers of Lutheran Church to Gov. Morris, 1754.

Viro Illustrissimo:

Robert Hunter Morris, Augustissimi ac Potentissimi Magnæ Brittaniæ Regis Gubernatori Reipublicæ, quae est in Pensilvania et in comitatibus adiacentibus, dignissimo

S. P. D.

Collegium Verbi Divini ministrorum evangelico-Lutheranorum.

Itinere ex Anglia in Pensilvaniam Divina favente gratia feliciter peracto, nunc Vir illustrissime, viriliter subis munus illud amplissimum pariter ac difficile, ad quod Te Rex noster Clementissimus, quem ad seros vsque annos Deus servet, cum ex Suo in Te Favore singulari, tum pro Tuis in Rempublicam meritis, non dubitavit evehere. Qua de re nisi lœtaremer Tibique ea qua par est, Submissione gratularemur, inhumani atque impii ab omnibus non immerito haberemur. Patere ergo, Vir Illustrissime, vt, et quam de Regimine Tuo concepimus, spem optimam, et qua Te colimus, pietatem hisce lineolis Tibi declaremus. Nos a Deo mediantibus ecclesiae nostrae Patribus summe venerandis e Germania, patria nostra, legitima vocatione accepta, in hanc ce Provinciam missi, populum vt inertem nostrum ad Salutem, quæ in Christo Jesu, mundi Servatore, est, diligenter erudiamus, quot et quanta vbique offendimus impedimenta ac mala, vix possumus dicere. Quam ob rem nos ab omni fere auxilio destitutos in Tutelam Tuam mente suscipere benigna ne recuses, demisse rogamus obsecramusque. Propterea Deum,* summum mundi Rectorem precamur, vt Felicitatem Tibi perpetuam esse iubeat, in gerendaque hac Provincia viribus Te sustineat Divinis, Te que salvum ac incolumem Reipublicae pariter ac nobis quam

* No signatures but evidently the original document.

diutissime conservet. Haec et quaecunque huc pertinent, in votis pectore sincero habemus

Illustrissimi Nominis Tui,

Cultores humillimi et obsequiosissimi,

HENRY MUHLENBERG,
PETER BRUNHOLTZ,
JOHANNES FRIDERICUS HANDSCHUCK.

Collegii, quod supra nominavimus, membra natu maiora; et qui sequunter confratres sunt nobiscum coniunctissimi:

NICOLAUS KURTZ,
HELLFRICH SCHAUM,
MATTHIAS HEINZELMANN,
FRIEDERICH SCHULTZE,
ALBERT WEYGAND,
LUDOLPH SCHRENK,
LUCAS RAUSS,
——— FRIEDERICI.

REFORMED GERMAN CLERGY TO GOV. MORRIS, 1754.

Vir Amplissime!

Gratulamur nobis et tibi; qui providô et propitiô numine Rege nostro Clementissimo ordinante optimus Gubernator ex Anglia Salvus et incolumis nobis adveneris.

Deus T. O. M. tuis benedicat functionibus, ut tuto, Iucunde et feliciter præesse nobis et prodesse possis.

Hoc, Vir Amplissime, ut Sinceriter Tibi et nobis adprecemur, Religio, quam profitemur, nos docet et officium, quô obstringimur, á nobis requirit, Se^t quatquot nomina Subsignavimus Ministri Evangelij Jesu Christi Castra Sequimur Ecclesiæ, ut credimus orthodoxæ, vulgo dictæ reformatæ, quæ per Hollandiam, angliam, Helvetiam, Palatinatum, etc., Fundata et Stabilita, est quod nobis non monentibus prô tuâ rerum publicarum Cognitione ex actis Imperij germanici, aliorumque Europæ Statuum, ipsæ facilé nosti. Doctrinâ et Disciplinâ hujus Ecclesiæ â pueris imbuti, innutriti, formati, Deo et Proximo devoti, patrio Solô relicto, desiderati, vocati, missi omnes, quotquot audire nos amant, præprimis Germanos, quorum maximus numerus per omnes Peñsylvaniæ Comitatus dispersus habitat, Sanioribus protestantismi Principiis, ex Pibliis Sacris Symbolisque Authenticis, imbuere debemus, ut omnes cujuscunque Sortis et conditionis pro modulo capacitatis viribusq divinitus concissis officia hominis, civis et christiani intelligere et adimplere discant, ut Hôc modô Deum timentes, Regem honorantes, Proximum amantes tranquillam et pacatam vitam invicem agentes, Posthâc fiamus participes melioris illius vitæ, Cujus author est Jesus Christus benedictus in Secula.

Vere Christiana Religio, Liceat nobis, Vir Amplissime hoc addere, vinculum Societ: Civil: non Solvit, Sed magis nectit, corpora civilia non turbat, Sed pacat, non Sauciat, Sed Sanat, unô verbô: Pietas Regna firmat.

Ergo, Vir Amplissime, ut nobis officio hoc nostro in nobilissimum catholicum hunc finem porro Functuris, masculé et benigniter faveas adsistasque illa cum parrhesia, quæ Ministro Evangelij I Christi decet, Submisse, Enixe rogamus.

Nos vicissim Tuæ Amplitudinis in Privatis et publicis precibus coram Deo et Coetibus Nostris devoté erimus memores.

Vale Vir Amplissime in Deo Patre Luminum; per Jesum Christum nobis conciliato.

In testimonium devoti nostri animi, unanimi Consensu, Nominatim nos Subscribimus.

Tuæ Amplitudinis,

Deditissimi et humillimi Servi.

Philadelphia, Novemb: 2, 1754.

JOHN WALD SMITH, Cocalico.
THEODOR FRANKENFELD, Fridriktown.
JONATHAN DU BOIS, Northamptown.
CONRAD TEMPELMAN, Swatare.
CONRAD STEINER, Germantown.
MICHAEL SCHLATTER, Philadelphia.
JOHN BARTHOLOMY RIEGER, at Lancaster.
GEORG MICHAEL WEISS, Goschehoppe.
JOHN PHILIP LEYDICH, New hannover.
JACOB LISCHY, Yorktown.
P. W. OTTERBEIN, Lancaster.
HENRY WILLH: STOY, Tulpihokin.

Indorsed.

Address from the German Clergy.

Address to the Honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., and Governor of Pennsylvania. From the Reformed German Clergy of said Province.

GOV. MORRIS TO GOV. WENTWORTH, 1754.

Copy.

Sir:

Give me leave to acquaint you y^{t} I have taken upon me ye Government of this Province, wherein I shall esteem it one of ye first advantages to hold a sincere and friendly Correspondence with you S^{r}, & ye other Gentlemen of ye neighbouring Colonies. This must produce a Unity of Councils, and such an Unity is ye surest method to pro-

mote ye Service of his Majesty, ye real Interest of ye several Colonies, & our own true & solid Reputation. To this End I shall omit no Occasion of acquainting you with every Measure I shall persue for ye general Happiness of his Majesty's Dominions, & shall pay all due regard to whatever Advice or Intelligence you shall please to communicate to

S^r y^rs.

Govr Wentworth.

Gov'r Morris to Gov'r Sharp, 1754.

Copy.

Sir:

As The Assembly of the Province met upon business this day, I have only time by the bearer to send you a copy of a letter I received a few days ago from M^r. George Croghan, the person entrusted with the Care of the Indians that have left Ohio and now live at a place called Aukwick, as that Letter contains some very usefull intelligence, I should have forwarded it by express, if this conveyance by M^r. Rutherford's servant had not offerd itself, which affords me also an opportunity of telling you that I have, in a long speech, press'd our assembly to exert themselves upon the present occasion, and enable me to Carry his Majesty's Commands into full execution, and I am not quite without hopes that they will do something that will be, but what I am as yet unable to say.

I think it of Consequence to our affairs among the Indians, that this Province should maintain such of them as are at Aukwick, and that the Chiefs now going from thence to Onondago should know that we have resolved to do so, I have therefore detained the express till I know the sentiments of the House of Assembly, without whom nothing can be done where money is wanting, and I believe they will readily come into what I have recomended to them upon this head.

You will give me leave to mention to you Capt. Rutherford, who is a gentleman of good sence, very well acquainted with the nature of the Indian affairs, having long been conversant with them as one of the Council for the Province of New York, and few men know the Politicks of this part of the Continent better than he. I am sure you will find him a skillfull active officer, and a very usefull man upon the present occasion.

I have some Hints from England, that a Plan of union of the Colonys for military purposes (not that sent from hence,) is under the consideration of the ministry, and tis thought will be enforced by act of Parliament this Sessions, and if so, something to the pur-

pose may be done next Summer, but hardly if we are to depend on the supplys to be granted by American Assemblys.

I have the Honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedt

Humble Servt,

R. H. MORRIS.

Philada., Novr 3d, 1754.

Indors d.

Dft. to Govr Sharpe, at Will's Creek, of Decemr 3d, 1754. Sent by Capt. Rutherford's servt, with Coppy of Croghan's Letter to me of Novr 23d.

Introduction of Sir John St. Clair to Gov. Morris, 1754.

Whitehall, 4th Novr, 1754.

Sir:

This Letter will be put into your hands by Sir John St. Clair,* whom the King has been pleased to appoint Deputy Quarter Master General of his Forces in North America, & has ordered him to repair, forthwith, to Virginia, to make the necessary preparations for the reception of the Troops; It is therefore The King's pleasure that you shall be aiding & assisting to Sir John St. Clair in the Execution of his Duty, & shall give him the best Advice you can, upon all Occasions relating to The King's Service, particularly with regard to those points mentioned to you in my Letter of the 26th, part whereof, I have given a Copy to Sir John St. Clair, and from whom you will receive a Duplicate of the same.

I am,

Sir,

Your most Obedient

humble Servant,

T. ROBINSON.

Directed.

Governor of Pensylvania.

Indorsed.

Novr 4th, 1754, Sr. Thos Robinson, Recommending Sr. John St. Clair.

Receiv'd with a letter from Sr. John St. Clair by Colle Ellison, Janry 24th, 1755.

* Sir John St. C. arrived in Virg. in Jan'y. See his letter to Gov. M., Col. Rec., Vol. VI., p. 298.

Thos. Penn to Gov. Morris, 1754.

Duplicate.

Sir:

We have just received Letters from Mr. Hamilton with an account that he had summoned the Assembly to meet, and had recommended to them to provide for the defence of the Country, as also to assist the Governor of Virginia to dislodge the French from our Frontiers; that they had accordingly met and presented a Bill for striking £35,000 Bills of Credit, fifteen thousand to be paid to Commisrs, for the King's Use, the remainder for exchanging torn and ragged Bills, and another for continuing the Excise for ten years from 1756, in order to sink the £15,000 at £1500 a year; that he had proposed to extend the Act for six years and sink £2,500 a year, but the Assembly refus'd it, & adjourn'd to the end of the year.

Mr. Hamilton does not inform us what they said on his proposal of providing for the defence of the Province, which is a measure as necessary as the other, and not so connected with it as not to be done without passing the Bill proposed. We therefore desire when you next meet the House of Representatives you will press upon them the necessity of putting the Inhabitants into a posture of defence, the buying of Arms, establishing a Magazine and obliging by Law the Inhabitants to attend at proper times to learn Military Discipline, in such manner as is practiced in other Colonys, and in doing this you will acquaint the Assembly it is our desire it should be done in the manner that is least burthensome to the people, and that may not affect any person who conscientiously scruples to bear Arms, or be concern'd in Military Preparations; this we desire you will press upon them, so as to engage them to do it, or get an explicit answer, that they will not, or cannot, and we think if they neglect or refuse to bring in such a Bill you should get one drawn & recommend to them.

We have not met with one Person among those we had the honour to confer with on this Subject, that has advised us to take the Money on the Terms the Assembly offer it, and therefore when such Bill is presented, we think it proper you should add a clause to it that the remainder of the Money shall be appropriated by Law, or as the Governor and House of Representatives shall order, and not otherwise, producing your Instructions, or not, as you shall judge most proper, and tho' you should disagree about this, you should stil press them to provide for the defence of their own Country. I think the Money they have, and will receive on the Excise & Paper Money Bills before the year 1756 must amount to £20,000, which would do much towards every thing that is expected.

As by the Indian Treaty the people of Connecticut are disappointed of purchasing Land of the Indians, we think it best to defer any thoughts of settling them, especially considering the French are now strongly settled at Ohio, which I believe will deter any People from offering to make Settlements, til they are removed, and I would not put any People upon such an undertaking til there is a probability of securing our possession. We are preparing here to do it, two Regiments are going from Ireland, many Officers, Stores, Arms and every thing necessary, and it is hoped Sr. Wm. Pepperel & Mr. Shirley will soon raise Regiments in America.

I have but just heard of this conveyance, which is just on its departure, so have not time to add more than that I am,

Sir,

Your very affectionate Friend,

THO. PENN.

London,
Octr 17th, 1754.

Sir:

I wrote you a few Lines two or three days since by Lieutenant Col1 Mercer, who is gone to Portsmouth to embark on board a Ship of War for Virginia, from whence he goes to Philadelphia, in order to raise Men for Sr. William Pepperel's Regiment, in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York, they are to inlist for three years, and I suppose it will be no difficult matter to compleat them. Col1 Mercer tells me he knows you, so that I need not say any thing of him. I sent by him the Acts of Trade which are given to Governors from that Board on their going to their Governments, and fully expected to have sent a copy of the King's instructions to us, but he was gone before they could be ready, and I send them to Mr. Peters by this conveyance. Every thing is done here as quickly as possible, but I hope it will be done effectually, and I make no doubt you will use your utmost endeavours to assist the Service.

I have received your letter of the 31st of August, and hope very soon to have an account of your safe arrival.

By Mr. Hockley's account I find a pair of Horses are bought for me, which I desire you will use as your own.

Lady Juliana returns you her thanks for the compliment you make her. I have not now time to add more than that I am,

Sir,

Your very affectionate Friend,

THO. PENN.

London, Novber 8, 1754.

Indorsed.

Novr 8, 1754, Mr. Penn with Duplte of Lettr of Octor 17, That he had sent ye Royal Instructions to Mr. Peters.

Rec'd Jan'y 22.

Extract.

From One of the Philosophical Exercises delivered Publickly in the Academy at Philadelphia, upon the Visitation Day, Novr. 12th, 1754. Being an Address to The hon^{ble}. Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Lieu^{t}. Governor of Pennsylvania, &c.

On this Occasion, we ought likewise acknowledge the great Honor done us, by all those worthy Personages, who are pleased to animate & encourage us with their Presence.

You, in particular, Sir, to whom the Administration of this Province is committed, we cannot but be proud to thank, for your engaging Condescension in this Respect.

As the Muses soften & humanize the Temper, they have, thro' every Age, been protected & cherished in a peculiar Manner, by all those illustrious Chiefs, who have deemed it far more glorious to reign in the Hearts of Freemen, than to lord it absolutely over Slaves.

Your worthy Predecessor, whose name ought always to be mentioned with Honor in this Government, has, on every Occasion, shewn himself a Friend to this Infant Seminary in particular, as well as an Encourager of polite Learning in general. We cannot, without some Degree of Pride, observe, that at a Time when, (with more than Roman Greatness of Soul,) he declin'd the whole Government of this rich and flourishing Province; yet even then, he condescended to accept a Part in the Trust & Direction of this Academy.

From You, Sir, we may reasonably expect equal Kindness. You are well known to have a fine Taste for all the Branches of a genteel Education. You have seen many Countries and Nations. You have mark'd the sad Effects of Ignorance and Error upon all the better Interests of Mankind, & no doubt greatly improved such Opportunities, by bringing Home with you, a Fund of Observations, that may be of lasting Service to this Country.

When, therefore, one of your liberal & enlarged Turn of Mind, considers in how small a Part of this Globe, true unadulterated Science has Footing, you cannot but think it one of the chief Glories of your Administration, to protect the Infancy of Science here. Thus, shall you have the Pleasure to see a vast informed multitude of People, rescued from the Barbarian Ignorance that hangs over them, and gradually fitted for relishing all the exalted privileges of a polished and free Government. A provision shall be made for propagating from Age to Age, those noble & heroic Sentiments, which lead Men cheerfully to submit to a free & well-temper'd Rule; but bravely to spurn every mean Attempt to abridge the Native Privileges, or to wound the Dignity—the Majesty of human Nature!

Indorsed.

Address from the Academy to His Honor the Governor, Novr. 12th, 1754.

(Copy) Gov. Morris to Gov. Sharp, 1754.

Sir:

Your favour of ye 8th Instant,* I had the Honour to receive by your messenger, and congratulate you upon the command his majesty has given you, in the Execution of which, I wish you all imaginable success.

Early in this month, I received a Letter from S^r. Thomas Robinson,† signifying to me, his majestys commands, that I should act with vigor in defence of this government, and afford my best assistance to the neighbouring provinces. This Letter, I shall, lay before the Assembly of this Province, on the 2^d. of December, when they are to meet, and you may assure yourself that I shall conform myself to his majestys commands, as far as they will enable me by the supplys they grant, and it will give me great satisfaction, if they act with spirit at this important Junture, when their own Interest in particular, and that of the colonys in gen^l., are so nearly concerned.

Should you receive any Intelligence that may be necessary for the consideration of this government while the Legislature is sitting, or that may Influence the resolutions of the Assembly, in favour of vigorous measures, I shall be obliged to you for sending such by express, which this Govm^t. will be at the expence of.

I have The Indian interpreter now in town, from whom I shall get such intelligence concerning the strength and situation of the French at Winingo and Buffilo river, as he Has been able to collect among the Indians, and shall make use of the first opportunity of Communicating it to you. By what I can learn, we have no other open road between this province and the river Ohio, but what has been long used by the Indian traders, & is only a Horse way through the woods, and over the mountains, but not passable with any carriage. We have an open waggon road, from this town to Watkins's ferry, upon Potomack river, by which any quantity of Provisions may be transported to that place.

Tho' the People of this province have, for a long time, carry'd on a trade to the River Ohio, near the places where the French have built their forts, and tho' that country is within the undoubted Limitts of this Province, yet I cannot learn that we have any open road to that river, by which Provisions for a body of troops can be convey'd, the traders using horses only to carry their goods. There is indeed.

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. VI., p. 178.
† See Colon. Rec., Vol. VI., p. 176.

The Speech of Governor Morris to the Indians at Aughwick, 1754.

Brethren of the six united nations, You in particular, who Came from Ohio, and have put yourselves under the protection of the Government of Pensilvania, give Ear to what I am going to say to you. [Here give a streng of wampum, and proceed as follows:] Please to harken to what I am going to say to you.

Brethren, by this Belt of Wampum, (the belt to be held up,) I make it known to you, that your Brother Onas, with the approbation of the King of great Britain, your father, has appointed me your Countryman, Governor of the province of Pensilvania, that is, to represent his Royal person among the people of Pensilvania, and his Brethren, the Indians of the six united nations, and their allies; and they desire you will keep the same Corespondence with me, as If your Brother Onas was here himself, and I assure you by this Belt, I shall, on my part, make it my particular Business, to keep the road open between us, and suffer no obstacles or obstructions that may by Storms Come across it, to remain there, and our Counsel fire shall from time to time, be kept Burning in Philad^ia.; [here give a Belt.]

Brethren, according to the promise that my predecessor, the Governor of Pens^uia. made you, some days ago, I make known to you, that our father the King of great Britain, upon hearing of the invasion of the French on your lands, sent to the King of French, to let him know of their Breach of the peace, and to require of him, the reason of his Childrens so doing, and whether it was by his order, but before the answer came backe from france, I was oblidged to go on bord the ship to take the Care of the Government of Pensilvania upon me; in the mean time, I can assure you, that after the King of Great Britain has tried all the fair means to remove the French from the new fords they Build on Ohio, and the French remain obstinate, he will take them by the arm, and fling them a Cross the lake of Cataroghky, to the place where they came from, and protect his Indian Children, and more to, If they desire it of him in a suitable way; [here give a Belt.]

Brethren, Since my arrival in this town, I hear that one of his majestys ships is come over, and brought orders to your Brother, Tocarryhogon, the Governor of Maryland, Concerning Ohio affair; as your Brother Tocarryhogon lives between us & Virginia, it is very like, that the King of Great Britain, has made him the Chief Comander against the French on Ohio, and If so, you will soon hear the particulars by a message from him, of which I desire you will take notice, as a word from our father, the King of Great Britain; here give another Belt.

Brethren, I have at present, no more to say to you.

Sir:

I have here, in the foregoing lines, put down what I thought would be necessary to be said by his Honour, the Governor, to the Indians at Aughweck, (or at least some heads of It). I submit it to your better Judgment, who am, Sir, your obedient,

C. WEISER.

[The following portions appear to have been written by the Gov'r or Sec'y.]

Brethren:

The Proprietaries, when I parted from them in London, desired me to assure you, of their hearty Regards for You; they had heard with Concern, of your being disturbed by ye French, and of their taking Possession of your Lands, and building Forts upon them, against your repeated Prohibitions; these French Proceedings, have likewise been imparted to his majesty, who was consulting with his Wise Men, in what manner it would be best to assist you, and I should have brought his majesties orders with me, coud I have been spared from the Care of my Government; but this, requiring my imediate Presence, I embarke for Pennsylvania, having been told, that the King's orders should soon follow me, and I hear they are arrived in Virginia, and will be communicated to you, as soon as his majesties Governors have had time to lay them before the wise men of their respective Governments, and he shall have received their advice and Concurrence.

Brethren:

Be assured that the Inhabitants of this Government are your fast Friends, and will afford you Protection now, since general measures shall be concerted, of which you shall not fail to have the earliest advice from me, and untill you shall hear further from me, pray keep yourselves quiet, nor regard any applications from the French, or their Friends and Dependants.

Indorsed.—Message to the Indians at Auckguick. Read in Council, 15 Nov^r., 1754.*

* See Weiser's Journal, Col. Rec., Vol. VI., p. 150. The foregoing appears to be a sketch of a Speech, prepared by C. Weiser, in whose handwriting it is,—"Read in Council, Nov. 15."

Thos. Penn Introducing Lieut. Orme, 1754.

Sir:

This will be delivered to you by Captain Orme,* aid de camp to General Braddock, who I recommend to you as my Friend, desiring you will do him any good offices he may have occasion for your assistance in while he stays with you, in which you will greatly oblige,

Sir,

Your very affectionate Friend,

THO. PENN.

London, November 15, 1754.

Directed—For The Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania.

By Captain Orm.

Gov. Wentworth to Gov. Morris, 1754

Portsmouth, November 18th, 1754.

Sir:

After my Congratulations for your Safe arrival in your Government, I must ask your Honour's pardon for not answering your letter† in the Course of the post, which the hurry I was in, when your favour Came to my hands, prevented.

I wish you a good deal of satisfaction in the Administration of Government, & be assured that all occurrences for His Majesty's Service shall be punctually Communicated to you, & that I shall be glad of all opportunitys to shew you, That I am with great Esteem,

Sir,

Your Honour's
most Obedient
hum^ble Servt,
J. G. WENTWORTH.

The Honble R. Hunter Morris, Esqr.

* See his account of the defeat of Genl. B. in 1755, Col. Rec., Vol. VI., p. 487.

† See it on page 186.

Richard Peters to Gov. Morris, 1754.

Nov. 18, 1754.

Honour'd Sir:

The Post had not been gone two hours before Mr. Broahead's Son delivered me the enclosed Letters; as his Father is a Justice of Peace & knows People's Dispositions perfectly well, his Information may be depended on.

This Intelligence I think, alters the State of Affairs so as make it necessary to send immediately to Connecticut. If you shall be of that Opinion, Mr. Armstrong carries this to give Your Honour the Oportunity. If not, He may return.

In case You should think it necessary to send Orders into Northampton County, Mr. Broadhead accompanies him & will immediately carry them to his father or to Mr. Carson's, who is in good health at Easton, but knows not of this affair, the young man not having communicated it to him, tho' he saw him there on his way here.

I hardly ever knew a Governor absent but some foolish thing or another happened yt made it necessary to disturb his Pleasure.

You will be pleased to recommend Mr. Armstrong, in case he goes on, to Mr. James And William Alexander yt he may advise with them what to do, either going, or in his Return, after he has known the worst of it.

I received two Letters directed to you yesterday, & have inclosed them.

Likewise your Letter to Coll. Johnson, is copied & sent.

And the Letter from Govr. Hamilton to ye Govr. of Connecticut, & the Answers to it, are sent herewith.

So that you have all the Materials for writing to Governor Fitch, if you & your Friends shall think it a proper Step.

Mr. Wm. Franklyn tells me that many of the six Nations are already siding with and removing to Canada, on a very Complaisant Message sent them by that Governor, entrusted to the Care of the Coghnawago Indians.

My kind respects to Mr. Allen & Mr. Turner & your Associates. I am

Your Honour's
Most obedient,
humble Servant,
RICHARD PETERS.

Philadelphia,
18 Novr, 1754.

The Honourable the Governor.

Indorsed.

Met the express, & from Trenton wrote Govr. Fitch, & sent Armstrong on, recommended to James & Willm Alexander. Wrote also to Broadhead by his son. Returned to Philad^a, 22d.

To John Lloyd, Esqr., Merch^t, at Stanford in Connecticutt.

"Rough Draft of a Plan for a General Union," 1754.*

A Plan for a General Union of the British Colonies of North America.

That the Legislature of Each Colony appoint a Committee of Union, whose Business it shall be to correspond with all the other Committees, particularly with those of the Division of the Provinces to which it belongs, to appoint the times & Places of Meeting in each Division, and to propose to their Respective Governments the Heads of such matters as shall be judg'd necessary to be imediately done, &c., as there may be more branches of Business assigned them.

That Delegates of the Committees of Each division shall have one annual Stated time of Meeting, and others occassionally, as in their Correspondencies they shall find it necessary. The place to be previously agreed on by them.

That there shall be four Divisions of the Provinces, viz:

1st Division.	Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina.
2^d Division.	Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania.
3^d Division.	Jersey, New York.
4th Division.	Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire.

That one Company consisting of one hundred Men complete, exclusive of Officers, shall be raised by every Province & a Regiment formed of ye 13 Companies to be called the Union regiment, to be commanded by one Colonel, Lieutenant Coll. & Major to be appointed by the King.

* Indorsement.

The General Officers to be paid by the King or Country, as shall be thought proper & called the Union Regiment.

That these Companies shall subsist 'till the French desist from their Encroachments, and there be establish'd on the Lakes a free Navigation for English Vessels and proper Forts built at the Head of every great River where Cities or Trading towns are situated at the Mouth in the Atlantick Ocean, and likewise other Forts be built to bridle the present Forts built by the French, and till a Fort be built on the Straits of Niagara in particular, to secure the Navigation of the Lakes.

That for the pay of these Companies, a Duty shall be laid on such things as are in most general use, y^t all may pay alike Excise on Rum, Shoes, Leather, &c., & in each Division if one Company be too much to be supported by any one Colony, that it be eased by other in its Division.

That the Governors of each Colony shall have a power to draw on this Fund on the Application of the Commanding Officer or the Union Committee of each Province.

That this little standing Army shall assist in making Roads, building Forts or any other necessary work; all men whilst in Work to receive double Pay. Directors of ye Work & Tools to be found at the Expense of the Fund, by the respective Provinces where the work is doing.

That out of this Fund shall be built by said Divison, one Vessel for the Navigation of the Lakes.

That a certain Quantity of Indian Trade, to ye amount of shall be carried on by the Committees of each Division, (but not an exclusive Trade,) and that the Prices of Goods shall be fixed, as well as the Prices of Beaver & Skins, and the Profits go into the Union Fund.

The Capital Sum used in the Indian Trade, to be advanced by the Assemblys and repaid once a year.

That Maps of each Province be immediately prepared by the Committee, and all of them join'd together by some Person in America, or if hard to be got, by M^r. Jeffery's, the King's Geographer, and a Copy of this General Map to be given to the Board of Trade & Privy Council.

That a certain Sum of Money, not to exceed sum, shall be struck in every Colony; to be emitted on loan on good Securities. Money arising from ye Interest, to go to ye Union Fund.

That for ye present there be built 8 forts, viz.: two Forts in Virginia, one on the Ohio, one on Lake Erie, Two in New York or Pennsylvania, as it may happen, one in the lower County, on or near the Straits of Niagara, and another on Onondaga Lake, Two in the Massachusetts, and two in New Hampshire.

Out of a Fund to be raised for this p'ticular purpose by every Province, called the Fort Fund, and to be put unto one general Direction, viz., of the Delegates of ye Division Commissioners. In

the building of each Fort, I would have one at least of every Division in ye Direction, to prevent embezzlements or Jobbing.

All to be submitted to his Majesty, & such reasonable alterations to, or additions made, as he in Council shall direct.*

John Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1754.

Dear Sir—

I had the Pleasure of writing to you last Thursday, since wch a Vessell arriv'd here from England, by wch Mr. Pownall had a Letter from his Brother, & as I find he is so hurry'd as not to be able to write to you himself, I have desir'd his leave to send you ye following piece of Intelligence out of it; by wch you will be able to judge whether or no ye M——y will come into ye Plan of Union agreed to by the Commissrs of the several Govts at their late Congress at Albany† when they see it. Mr. J. Pownall writes his Bror as follows: "The repeated Representations of some of the Colonies of the "necessity of a Plan of Union & Concert for their Gen. defence, "has induc'd ye Govt here to think of proposing a Plan of this "sort; It has been already prepar'd at ye Board of Trade, & is now "under ye Consideration of other part of Govt, I must not, there-"fore, say any thing more of it now than that it proposes a Congress "of Commissrs from each Colony." I have no leave to take any thing more out of this Letter, but as I am writing to you I can't help stealing one piece of News more out of it, vizt., that Mr. Pownall tells his Bror that the Managemt & Direction of this Congress will probably be entrusted to him, wth a very handsome Appointmt from home. I told you in my last that a Committee of the Assembly of this Prove were preparing a Representation agt Mr. Alexander relative to ye Jersay Line, but as yet they have not ventur'd to attack him, there is a Council to-night upon that Affair, if we sh^d hear any thing further before we go you will have it, either from Mr. Pownall or myself. I have wrote to my Bror in Law abt yr fish, & will take Care of yr other Commissions when I get to Boston.

*The foregoing is a rough draught of a plan for the Union of the Colonies, which had been in agitation—(at least for general defence,) as early as February, 1745. See Colon. Records, Vol. IV. p. 20, &c. It is uncertain in whose hand writing the sketch is, but it appears to be the same with other rough papers of that time, and probably is Secretary Peters', who was also one of the Commissioners to Albany. The progress of the plan will be seen in Vol. V. pps. 30 to 97, (See Index,) but the Union was not agreed to by the Commissioners till July 10, 1754. See the plan as then reported by Dr. Franklin, one of the Commissioners from Pennsylvania, Vol. VI. p. 105. See proceedings of Commissioners at Albany, in Colon. Records, Vol. VI. p. 57 to 110. For a history of the plan, see Spark's Life of Franklin, Vol. III, p. 22, &c.

† See it vol. vi. p. 105, Colon. Record.

Mr. Pownall desires you will give him an answer abot the Desert. We leave this on Monday or Tusday next, & I believe I shall have ye Pleasure of Mr. Pownall's Company this Winter at Boston.

I am,

Dr Sir, Your's most Affectionately,

JOHN SHIRLEY.

New York, Novr. 19, 1754.

Directed.

To The Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr.,
Lieut Governour & Commander in Chief of ye Province of Pensilvania, &c., at Philadelphia.

Indorsed—

John Shirley—Extract from J. Pownall's letter to his Brother about Union of the Colonys concerting at home.

German Protestants of Phil. Co. to Gov. Morris, 1754.

To the honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania and Counties of New Castle, Kent and Sussex upon Delawe.

The humble Address of the German Protestants, inhabited of the County of Philada and the adjacent Counties of the said Province, in Behalf of themselves and their Country Men.

May it Please your Honour—

We the German Protestants, Freeholders and Inhabitants of the County and Counties aforesaid, of Divers religious Denominations, do beg leave to congratulate your Honour on your Promotion and safe Arrival to the Station of this Government.

Being very sensible of the Privileges and Liberties we enjoy under the excellent Constitution of a Brittish Government, we know very well that we cannot give sufficient Thanks to the Almighty for having conveyed us into such a Country, and under so mild a Government, where the best Priviledges in the Known World are established.

The mild Government, the incomparable Priviledges, the inestimable Liberty of Conscience, and the just Administration of the excellent Laws so happily established, particularly in this Province, by our first worthy Proprietor, Willm Penn, Esqr., a Lover and zealous friend of Liberty (of immortal Memory) and continued in his Successors, and so loudly proclaimed over the best Part of Germany, hath Drawn the Affection of a considerable Number of Germans oppressed by arbitrary Powers and Slavery to transport them-

selves hither, with the promising hopes to embrace and be made Partakers of the Enjoyment of the famous Priviledges aforesaid: Who by the kind Reception and the actual and unexceptionable Admission to the Rights of born Brittains has been most firmly and heartily attached to his Majesty and the Crown of Great Brittain; whereby also the Inhabitants of this and adjacent Provinces have been augmented the Lands cultivated, Trade and Commerce encreased to a flourishing Condition.

In Consideration of all this and many other Advantages and Benefactions, we have partaken of the Enjoyment with our fellow English Men, allways thought ourselves very happy, and at all Times when any public Event happened within the Realm of Great Brittain, or any Change of Governeurs, especially in this our beloved Pennsylvania we unanimously pray'd for the Blessings of God Almighty for our gracious King George, the Royal Family, and for a continual Succession of the Protestant Princes of the same on the Throne of Great Brittain, as also for our honoured Governeurs arrived amongst us from time to time, although we never as yet attempted to do it in publick in that due Affection towards our Sovereign King and Governours, which was entirely by reason of that said Nation of Protestants living so far a part all over the s^d Province, and hardly one cared to appear in publick in behalf of himself and Country Men, for Fear of being looked upon as Audaciousness: Thus the Case being stated, we sufficiently contented ourselves without appearing in this manner to signify our due Loyalty and Affection to our gracious Sovereign.

It might be possible that this our due Address would have also been intermitted at this Time by reasons aforesaid, and no other, had not some Spirit, we will not determ what Name to give him, 1 Reg. 22, 21, 22, accused us very publickly both here and in England, of a Secret Conspirace against our King and Government, which is no small matter to Charge a Body of People with, and might perhaps be detrimental the s^d Nation: A very hard Charge indeed to a Number of People, against which no such Accusation can be aledged with Justice, and against which, in general, not one single Instance can be proved of any Disloyalty, much less of any Conspirace against our beloved King George and Country we live in.

This, your Honour, would please to observe, is the only Motive and Reason that moved some of Us to act in behalf of ourselves and Country men to congratulate your Honour publickly on your Safe Arrival to the station of this Government at this Time, and not to any of your honor^d Predecessors before as above said: And being very well acquainted with the Sentiments of a considerable Number of German Protestants Inhabitants of this Province, who all unanimously agree to all what is above said; excepting a few ignorant, unmannerly People lately come amongst us; it makes us the more free to lay the Case thus open before your Honour.

How, therefore, can any man of due Reason think much less, say

that this same People were any ways inclined to Submit themselves again under a Romish Slavery upheld by a French King? To the Contrary, we wish and pray, and the more at this critical Juncture of impending Danger, that God Almighty might rule our gracious King George and Parliament to find lawfull means to defeat and frustrate all unjust Designs of the French King and all other foreign Princes whatever, wherewith they intend to disturb his Majesty's Rights: And we do hereby renew all true Loyalty and Assistance or Contribution to our King an Government, in such a manner as the Wisdom of your Hon^r and our worthy Assembly in Legislature by the Constitutions of this Province wiil find needfull & expedient.

Now, hoping confidently that our gracious King and Parliament is not moved in Displeasure against us by mere false Defamations, we entertain the good Confidence to your Hon^r as a Lover of Justice and Equity, to assist your humble servants in defacing such unjust Clamours at home in England, and we hope our Actions and loyal Behaviour in this Province will always be a sufficient Proof of our tender Affection to the Realm of Great Brittain.

And that the Almighty God may always direct your Administration to his own Glory and the publick Welfare, and confer upon your Hon^rs Person every desirable Blessing here and eternal Happiness hereafter, is the hearty wish and Pray^r of

Sir, Your Hon^rs
most humble and dutifull Servants.

Signed in Behalf of ourselves and Country Men,
Nov^br 20th, 1754.

MICHAEL SCHLATTER,
GEORGE HITNER,
MAREUS KUHL,
HENRY KEPPELE,
CHRISTIAN SCHNEYDERS,
JACOB PFINERZ,
DAVID SUSHOLTZ,
RUDOLPH BUNER,
FRIEDRICK MAUSS,
ERNST KURTZ,
HEINRICH BASSLER,
JOHANNES GAMBER,
MATTHIAS CLINE,
MATTHIAS ABELL,
JACOB HEANKE,
JACOB KOPP,
HENRY ANTES,
GEORGE HUBNER,
CHRISTOPHER SHOLTZE,
PETER PENNEBACKER,
HENRY KECK,
HENRY MUHLENBERG,
MICHAEL WALTHER,
MATTHIAS HOLLENBACK,
PHILIP LIDICK,
JOHN SCHRACK,
CHRISTOPF RABE,
PETER BRUNNHOLTZ,
MATTHIAS HEINZELLMAN,
GEORG GRAFF,
JOHANN. CASPAR RUBEL,

Indorsed—

Address from the German Protestants.

Gov. Morris to Geo. Croghan, 1754.

Philadelphia, 25 Nov^{r}, 1754.

Sir:

M^{r}. Peters has mentioned you to me in a very favourable manner, & I am Glad the Province has a man at this critical time among the Indians that they so much depend upon. You will receive with this a speech from me to the Indians at Auckquick, notifying my arrival with Belts and strings of Wampum, supposed to be proper, if not, I desire they may be made so before you deliver it. M^{r}. Peters will write you fully upon the head, and give you directions as to a present & Speeches of Condolence upon ye death of the half King if necessary, if not, it may be let alone.

As this is a time in which a thorough Knowledge of the sentiments, Inclinations, resolutions & expectations of the Indians is absolutely necessary for his Majesty's service and the Interest of these Colonys, I must recomend it to you to get what insight you can as to these matters, and write me from time to time very explicitly, and give me y^{r} sentiments upon the several heads. The Assembly sitting the next week I desire you will, by the return of the Bearer, write me very fully upon every thing relating to the Indians, &c. But it may be laid before them, & their answers obtained thereto, or if you should fail in this, the proper measures for his Maj^{tys} service, may be retarded and the Indians disappointed.

I am,

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS.

Indorsed.

Gov^{rt} lre to Mr. Croghan, 25 Nov^{r}, 1754.

General Braddock's Instructions, 1754.

G. R. *Instructions for* our Trusty & well beloved *Edw'd Braddock, Esq'r. Major General of all our Forces,* and whom We have appointed Genl & Commander of all & singular our Troops & Forces y^{t} are now in North America, & y^{t} shall be sent or raisd there to vindicate our just Rights & Possessions in those Parts. Given at our Court, at S^{t}. James's, ye 25th day of Nov^{r}, 1754, in the 28th Year of our Reign.

Whereas, We have by our Commission, bearing date the 24th day of Septr last past, appointed you to be Genl & Commander of all & singular our Forces, y^{t} are or shall be in North America. For your better direction in discharge of ye Trust thereby reposed in You, We have judged it proper to give You the following Instructions.

1st. We having taken under our Royal & serious Consideration the Representations of our Subjects in North America, & ye present State of our Colonies, in order to vindicate our just Rights & Possessions from all Encroachments, & to secure ye Commerce of our Subjects, We have given direction yt Two of our Regiments of Foot now in Ireland, commanded by Sr Peter Halket & Col. Dunbar, & likewise a suitable Train of Artillery, Transports & Store Ships, together with a certain Number of our Ships of War, to convey the same, shall forthwith repair to North America.

2d. You shall immediately, upon ye Receit of these our Instructions, embark on board one of our Ships of War, and you shall proceed to North America, where You will take our said Force under your Command. And We having appointed Aug. Keppel, Esqr., to command ye Squadron of our Ships of War on ye American Station, We do hereby require & enjoin you to cultivate a good understanding & correspondence with ye sd Commander of our Squadron during your continuance upon ye Service, with which you are now entrusted. We having given directions of ye like nature to ye sd Commander of our Squadron, with Regard to his conduct & correspondence with you.

3d. And Whereas, there will be wanting a number of men to make up ye designed complements of our said Regiments, from 500 to 700 each: And Whereas, it is our Intention yt Two other Regiments of Foot, to consist of 1000 men each, shall be forthwith raised & comanded by Govr Shirley & Sr Wm. Pepperell, whom We have appointed Cols of ye same in our Provinces & Colonies, in North America, and have given directions yt ye Regiment under ye command of ye former shoud rendezvous at Boston, & yt under ye command of ye latter at New York and Philadelphia; and We having given orders to our several Governors to be taking the previous Steps toward contributing, as far as they can, to have about 3000 men in readiness to be enlisted for these Purposes, & to be put in Proportion as they shall be raised under your command, & be subject to your distribution into the corps above mentioned. And We having thought proper to dispatch Sir John St. Clair, our deputy Quarter Master Genl, & Jas. Pitcher, Esqr, our Commissary of ye musters, in North America, to prepare every thing necessary for ye arrival of ye Two Regiments from Europe, & for ye raising of ye Forces above mentioned, in America. You will inform yourself of such of our Governors as you can most conveniently upon your arrival, & of all of them in due time, & likewise of our sd deputy Quarter Master Genl & Commissary of ye musters, concerning ye Progress they shall respectively have made in ye Execution of our commands above mentioned, in order yt you may be enabled without delay to act accordingly.

4th. Whereas, it has been represented to Us yt ye Forces, which are to go from Cork under your command, may be in want of Provisions upon ye arrival in America, We have caused in consideration

thereof 1000 Barrels of Beef & 10 Tons of Butter, to be put on board the Transport Vessels, & to be delivered to you upon your arrival in America, in case you shall find ye same to be necessary in order to be distributed among ye officers & Troops, & ye several Persons belonging to ye Train of Artillery. But it is our Royal Will & Pleasure, y^t^ in case ye Gov^rs^ of our Colonies shall have provided a proper Quantity of Provisions for our Troops upon their arrival, you will then signify ye same to ye Commander in Chief of our Fleet in those Parts, y^t^ ye s^d^ 1000 Barrels of Beef & 10 Tons of Butter, or such Part thereof as shall not be expended may be applied to ye Use of our Royal Navy.

5th. Whereas, We have given Orders to our said Gov^rs^ to provide carefully a sufficient Quantity of fresh victuals for ye Use of our Troops at their arrival, & y^t^ they shoud also furnish all our officers who may have occasion to go from Place to Place, with all necessaries for travelling by Land, in case there are no means of going by Sea; & likewise, to observe & obey all such orders as shall be given by You or Persons appointed by you from time to time for quartering the Troops, impressing Carriages, & providing all neeessaries for such Forces as shall arrive or be raised in America, and y^t^ the s^d^ several Services shall be performed at the charge of of ye respective Governments, wherein the same shall happen. It is our Will & Pleasure y^t^ you should, pursuant thereto, apply to our s^d^ Governors, or any of them, upon all such Exigencies.

6th. And Whereas, We have further directed our said Gov^rs^ to endeavour to prevail upon ye Assemblies of their respective Provinces to raise forthwith as large a Sum as can be afforded as their contribution to a common Fund, to be employed provisionally for ye general Service in North America, particularly for paying the charge of levying ye Troops to make up ye complements of ye Regiments abovementioned. It is our Will & Pleasure y^t^ you shou'd give them all ye advice & assistance you can towards effectuating these good Purposes, by establishing such a common Fund as may fully supply ye intended Service; But you will take particular Care to prevent ye Payment of any money whatever to ye Troops under your command, except such as shall be, pursuant to ye Returns, made to you of effective men.

7th. We having likewise directed our s^d^ Gov^rs^ to correspond, advise & confer with you about all such matters as may tend to ye promoting the said Levies in their respective Provinces, you are hereby required to be aiding & assisting to them in ye Execution of our s^d^ Instructions, for which purpose you will not only keep a constant & frequent correspondence in writing with them, but will likewise visit the s^d^ Provinces, or any one of them y^t^ you shall think it necessary for our Service so to do. And you will remind our said Governors to use all possible dispatch, that ye Execution of our design may not be retarded by ye Slowness of Levies to be made in their respective Provinces, or for ye Want of Transports, Victuals, or any

other necessaries, at such times & Places as you shall think fit to appoint for their General Rendezvous. And if any Preparation should be necessary for carrying on our Service, which is not contained in these our Instructions, you shall, with ye concurrence of the Governors who are to assist in any such Service, make any such Preparations, provided y^t ye same shall appear to you absolutely necessary for ye Defence of our just Rights & Dominions; and you will, in all such Emergencies & occurrences y^t may happen, whether herein mentioned or not provided for by these Instructions, not only use your best Circumspection, but shall likewise call to your assistance a Council of War when necessary, which We have thought fit to appoint upon this occasion, consisting of yourself, ye Commander in Chief of our Ships in those Parts, such Governors of our Colonies or Provinces, & such Colonels & other of our Field officers as shall happen to be at a convenient distance from our s^d Genl & Commander of our Forces, & you shall with ye advice of them or a majority of them, determine all Operations to be performed by our said Forces under your command, and all other important Points relating thereto, in a manner y^t shall be most conducive to ye Ends for which ye s^d Forces are intended, & for ye faithful discharge of ye great Trust hereby committed to you.

8th. You will not only cultivate ye best Harmony & Friendship possible with ye several Governors of our Colonies & Provinces, but likewise with ye Chiefs of ye Indian Tribes, & for ye better Improvement of our good Correspondence with ye s^d Indian Tribes, you will find out some fit & proper Person agreeable to the Southern Indians to be sent to them for this purpose, in like manner as We have orderd Col. Johnson to repair to ye Northern Indians, as ye Person thought to be most acceptable to them, to endeavour to engage them to take part & act with our Forces, in such operations as you shall think most expedient.

9th. You will inform yourself from time to time, of ye Nature & Value of ye Presents y^t shall be voted or orderd by ye Assemblies of our different Colonies & Provinces, in ye accustomed manner of the inviting & engaging ye Indian Tribes to our Alliance & Interest, and you will be very watchful y^t a just & faithful distribution be made of ye same, by all such Persons who shall be entrusted therewith, and you shall assist ye s^d Persons with your best advice in ye s^d distribution. You will likewise give a particular attention to ye prudent disposal of such Presents as shall be made upon any Occasion, or such as shall have been prepared by Lieut. Governor Dinwiddie, for ye said Indians, out of ye money already vested in his Hands or otherwise.

10th. Whereas, it has been represented to Us, y^t an illegal Correspondence & Trade is frequently carried on between the French & our Subjects in ye several Colonies, you will diligently take all possible measures to prevent the continuance of all such dangerous

Practices, particularly that the French should not, upon any account whatever, be supplied with Provisions, &c^{a}.

11th. Whereas, We have thought it necessary upon this occasion to establish & ascertain the Rank that shall be observed between the officers bearing our immediate Commission, & those who act under the Commissions of our Governors, Lieut^{t} or Deputy Governors, or ye Presidents of our Colonies, for the Time being. We have orderd several printed Copies thereof to be put into your Hands, to be affix'd or dispersd as you shall judge proper in America.

12th. You will herewith receive a Copy of ye early directions that were sent by our Order on ye 28th August, 1753, to our several Governors, enjoining & exhorting our Colonies & Provinces, in North America, to unite together for their common & mutual defence, & you will see by our directions of 5th July, Copies whereof are now also delivered to you our repeated commands, for enforcing the Observance of our said orders of ye 28th August, 1753, & y^{t} We were graciously pleased to order the Sum of £10,000 to be remitted in Specie to Lieut^{t} Govr Dinwiddie, to draw Bills for a farther Sum of £10,000, upon ye conditions mentioned in our Warrant of the 3^{d} July last, & transmitted to ye s^{d} Lt Govr Dinwiddie, on ye 27th Septr following, by our Order for ye general Service & Protection of North America, and ye several other Letters of October ye 25 & 26, & of Novr ye 4th, to our Gov^{rs}, to Sir W^{m}. Pepperell & Col. Shirley, Copies of which will be delivered to you herewith, will fully acquaint you with our Orders & Instructions which have been signified to our officers & Governors upon this Subject, at those respective Times, will enable you to inform yourself what Progress has been made in the Execution thereof; And as Extracts of Lieut^{t} Govr Dinwiddie's Letters of May 10th, June 18th, & July 24th, relating to the Summons of the Fort which was erecting on ye Forks of ye Monongohela, & ye Skirmish y^{t} followed soon after, & likewise of ye action in the Great Meadows, near the River Ohio, are herewith delivered to you, you will be fully acquainted with what has hitherto happened of a hostile Nature upon the Banks of that River.

13th. You will not fail to send Us by the first, & every occasion that may offer, a full and clear account of your Proceedings, & of all material Points relating to our Service, by Letter, to one of our Principal Secretaries of State, from whom you shall receive, from time to time, such farther Orders as may be necessary for your Guidance and Direction.*

G. R.

Indorsed.

Copy. General Braddock's Instructions.

* General Braddock arrived Feby 1755. See Col. Rec. Vol. VI, p. 303.

Gov. Fitch to Gov. Morris, 1754.

Norwalk, 29th November, 1754.

Sir,

Your Favour of the 20th Instant by Mr. Armstrong received yesterday, and should be glad it was in my Power to do more service than I am at present able to afford to prevent the Ill Consequences you have so well pointed out as proceeding from the Purchass of those Lands on Susquehannah in the manner in which *some People* of this Colony have *presumed* to act; I am very sensible that to take any steps to disaffect the Indians in our alliance or to raise Contests between the Governments at this Critical Conjuncture must be prejudicial to his Majesty's Interest, and *greatly Detrimental* to the *safety and peace of these Governments;* and therefore *ought to be opposed by all*, I perswade myself Sir that you believe I shall use what Influence and Interest I can against such proceedings. Indeed I must Confess myself to be unacquainted with the Scheme proposed by *those persons*, and know but very little about the steps they have taken *as they never made any application to the Government* about the matter, and who the Persons concerned be, or where they live, I know not, but only in general I have been informed some live *in this Government*, and I suppose the *greatest number*, some in England, some in New York, the Jersey and Elsewhere. When Govr Wolcott made publick Govr Hamilton's Letter about this affair, I Imagined it would have Discouraged the further proceedings in that matter, but by what I have heard it had not in general that Effect, however I know of no better way with us at present than to represent the State of the Case in some publick Manner by which all Persons Concerned may see the Consequences of such a procedure; and it will be needless for me to hint what may be proper to be done in your Government in such Case; I shall therefore lay this Matter before our Assembly for their Consideration; and shall as I have opportunity Endeavour as far as lies in my Power to shew the Perril attending such transactions; if any thing worthy of Notice occurs shall further advise you; in the mean time

Remain your most Obedient

Humble Servant,

THOS. FITCH.

The Honble Govr. Morris,

Direction.—"To The Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Governour of the Province of Pensylvania, Philadelphia.

Geo. Croghan to Gov. Morris, 1754.

De^br^. 2^d^. 1754.

May itt Plese y^r^ honour,

I wrote you all ye News I had from ye Ohio Leatly by my Man, whome I Sent down Express, in that I acquainted y^r^ honour that I intended to Leave this pleace for this Reson, that all the Promisess Made those Indians or any Expectations they have of this governments Doing any thing for them, they allways Expect to be fullfill^d^ by Me, and as itt is nott in my Power to Do any thing for them, I think itt proper one of y^r^ Interpreters should be Sent hear to take Care of them, they Imagin I have Received orders from y^r^ honour to Suply them with Such things as they want, and begins to think I intend to Cheet them outt of their Rites or what they Imagin I had orders to give them; on ye other hand, I make no Doubt butt ye Government thinks I Run them to an Extravigint Expence as itt is Realy a hevy Expence to the Government; to acquitt My Self from Reflections on boath Sides, I should be glad some other person wold be apointed to provide for them who phaps May Do itt Beter then I Can, itt is nott because I Neaver have bean paid any thing for my truble, butt to avoide Sencur tho' I aShure y^r^ honour I Neaver Received a farthing for my own time & truble Spent on those ocations in My Life from ye Government, itt is true they allways paid me fer ye Services of My horses, butt Neaver Considered Me one farthing for My Truble, tho' I Remember Last Winter when John Paten was Sent out to Ohio with a Letter, the government aLowed him £50, I was Sent out att ye same time, and was outt three Months, butt Neaver had ye Least acknolidgement made me, I Dont Menshon this to y^r^ honour by way of Expecting any pay fer My Truble, fer Should itt be thought of any Service to ye publick My staying hear att this Critecall Juntuer, I will obay y^r^ honours orders with Plesher, and aSist any Person y^r^ honour will Send hear.

I think att this time itt is my Duty to acquaint y^r^ honour what I know of ye Indians Sentiments, and what they Expect of this government, which is as folows, the Ohio Indians in Ginrele putts thire hole Depenance on this government in Regarde to ye Expedition as Soon as this government Moves, they will unite all thire force and attack ye French, Butt I Blive Nott till then, and they Expect ye Government will Suply them hear with Provisions till Spring, and Cloathing for there famelys till they See what will be Don, ye Dalaways & Shannas are all study frends and I Blive will Remain so notwithstanding ye many afferts made on them by ye French, butt I think they should be Sent fer to Come on this Side ye Aleganie Mountain, if the Government Should think proper to Suport those Indians and Do itt in a ginrous Maner, I think all the Ohio Indians May be Retain^d^ in ye British Intrest, Butt if nott Don

Speedely and with Sprett I think itt is better give them up without any further Expence, those people Expects a Small Stokeado fortt Made fer ye Securety of thire Wifes & Children, as they are afread of ye French Indians Coming to attack them, this is all I know of thire Sentiments or Expections att present, Butt I will Write y^r honour all ye News I Can hear worth y^r honours Notice from time to time, the Shannas that was hear and Went to Verginia is yet within 50 Miles of this, & I b'live will Continue there till spring.

I am y^r honours most humble
and most obeident humble
Servant,
GEO. CROGHAN.

Indorsed.—"A Letter from George Croghan, to Gov. Morris, Dated Dec. 2, 1754, Laid before the House, Dec. 9, 1754."

Geo. Croghan to Gov. Morris, 1754.

Aughick old Town, Decr 2d, 1754.

May itt Plese yor Honour:

Yesterday I was favored with y^r honour's Leter and Instructions to ye Indians hear, all which I deliver'd this Morning in ye Presents of y^r honour's Mesengar, and Likewise Deliver'd a Small present in y^r honour's Name to Condole with them on ye Death of the half king, and to Wipe ye Tears from thire Eyes to ye a mount of £20. 10, which I hope will be agreeable to y^r honour; y^r honour's Speech was very kind Ly Received by ye Indians, and they Return thire father, ye king of Great Bretan, and his honour ye Proprietor, thire hearty thanks for apointing a Gentelman bread in ye Same Land with them to have ye Care of them, and a Shures y^r honour they will be Directed by you in Every thing that may Contrubett to keep up a good understanding between you and them, and Desiers thire Compliments may be made to his honour, Governor Hamilton, thire Brother, and thankes him for ye care he took of them Dureing his Administeration in this Government; hear they gave a String of Wompum.

I am y^r honour's most
humble and most
obedient Servant.
GEO. CROGHAN.

Indorsed.—Laid before the House Decr 9, 1754.

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. VI., p. 188.

Geo. Croghan to R. Peters, 1754.

Decr 2d, 1754.

Dr Sr:

I am Greatly oblidgd to you for Leting me know how ill I am Represented to you. But I a Shure you I have a more Greatfull Spiritt than to Spake one Disrespectfull word of you; it is true it was tould me you wold be my Enemy in Regard to Lands, and that I Never should have a foot over ye hills, which I did nott bleve; and if you Remember, I mentioned Something that way in a Leter to you. I Never tucht with any of the Propritors Rights I a Shure you, But if I tuck up Land and Sold my Right of settlement or Improvement, I thought itt Could nott affect ye Proprietors. However, I hope to Sett all those Maters Right when I See you. I will be very Willing to go to Philadelphia, Either with Indians or without, att any time that you will apoint to meet you and Mr. Hockly, and Do all in my power to Secure you boath; and those that Say otherwise to you Dose me wronge. Pray Could nott ye aSembly pass an actt of bankrucpt to oblidge ye merchants to take what effects we have for pay, and so discharge us. I should be glad to know if that Could be Don or in what Maner to proceed.

Mr. Montour is att ye Camp att Wills Creek, butt Expected home Every Day.

I am, Dr Sr,

yr most humble Servant,

GEO. CROGHAN.

For Richard Peters, Esqr,
in Philadelphia.

Geo. Croghan to R. Peters, 1754.

Decemr 2d, 1754.
Aughick old Town.

Dr Sr:

Yesterday I Received yr feavor by his honour's Express, by which I find My Man had Nott gott to Town when this Express Sett out. I then wrote what News I had of ye Motions of ye French, and Should have wrote my Sentements in full butt for this Reason, (when Mr. Wiser was hear he Desired ye Indians might Stay Contented till ye governor wold a Rive, and then they might Depend on a present and have every thing they wanted; he Left with me ye Price of 500 bushels of wheat for them, and tould me before that was Expended I Should have fresh orders, butt I never Received any, which made me Conclude that those Indians was to be taken no

more Notice of; and as I am Very Scencable the Government has Very Little publick feath, I thought my Presing things wold Lock as if I wanted to make a hand for my Self out of the publick money, which I a Sure you wold be ye Last thing I wold Do for a Livelihood, Lett me be in Ever so much Distres; the Indians allways a teasing me for those promises, and ye Winter coming on, and no Provision made for them, made me Determin to Leave ye Plase to them Selves, and Lett Some other Person take a turn of takeing Care of the Indians, for I a Sure you I am £150 ye worse for thire being hear Since they Came; and as I am to Do all those things without any Restusion for my time or trouble, I think itt to hard to be att a Loss by acting for ye good of ye Province, besides Laying my Self under a great many Reflections, for ye Government of Virginia Imagines if itt was Nott for me, that all ye Indians wold a Stai^d there, in which ye Really Rong me; but what Confirms them in that opinion is My Refusing an ofer when made Me by them. Butt att y^r Request I will Lett his honour know all my Sentements, and what I know of ye Indians' Minds, and Likewise what they Expect ye Government to Do for them; and if itt Should be thought of any Service to ye publick my Staying hear all Winter, I will Stay and a Sist any person that will be apointed to provide for ye Indians, butt I a Sure you I Never Desier to have ye handling of a farthing of ye Publick Money, for fear of Reflections.

I am D^r S^r,

Your most Humble Servant.

GEO. CROGHAN.

For Richard Peters, Esqr,
in Philadelphia.

Geo. Croghan to R. Peters, 1754.

Decem^br. ye 5th, 1754.

Dr. Sr.

Since I wrote my Last to ye governor and you ye Shannas, which I Menshoned was within 50 Miles of this Plese, after Treating with Co^ll. Innes att ye Camp, Came hear and was very unesey att thire being Detaind So Long hear this Sumer, and Now was oblig^d to go home without hearing from thire Brother Onas, which was thire only Busness Down to know what thire Brother wold have them to Do, I Strowe to keep them till his honours Instructions wold Come up, Butt to No purpose, they wold by No Mains be stopt as the Winter was so far advanct and as they Seem^d to be unesey by thire Nott Receiveing any Present from this government I was oblidg^d to ventur and buy £42 worth of goods from the Berrer to give them, fer

which I gave him My Note, which I hope ye Government wont Lett Me Suffer, for they are Sett of prety well Satisfy^d and I gott the feaver of them to Leave two Men hear to weate till his honour wold Send up his Instructions that they might follow Imeadetly with ye Speechs to aquaint all thire peple, I am Sencable itt was Wrong of me to take opon Me to Do this, Butt as I am Situated I must have Don itt or Else Lett them gon home Displesed with this government. So I Chose Rather to venter, Supose I Shuld pay itt My Self, then send ye heads of that Nation home Displeas^d, att this time I hope his honour will Excuse my forwerdness in this as I Realy Don itt for ye good of ye Government, as Every Body is Sencable I Can have No vews of Tread, Now I am Dr. Sr.

y^r Most humble
Servant,

GEO. CROGHAN.*

P. S.—S^r. I hope his honour will order ye Berrer paid, and My Note Taken up as itt will be a great Disapointment to ye Man, if he Dose nott gett itt, as he Lett me have ye things Purely to oblidge ye government.

Directed.—" For Richard Peters, Esqr. in Philadelphia."

Gov. Sharpe to Gov. Morris, 1754.

Annapolis, December 10th, 1754.

Sir,

I take this Opportunity of acknowledging the Receipt of your favour of the 14th of November, & to acquaint you that I have just now received Intelligence from Will's Creek, of the arrival of 1100 French, and 70 Arondacks at the French Fort on Monongahela, & that there are 400 French, & 200 Conawagas & Ottaways more at the Head of Ohio ready to come down thither. As soon as the Arundacks came to the Fort the Commandant divided them into three Detachments, & sent them against the Back Settlements of Pensilvania, Maryland or Virginia. I have also received advice that about 300 French Families have settled this Fall at the Mad Creek a great Deal on this Side the Twightwee Town & not far from the Maguak.

I am sir with the truest Respect & Esteem,
Your Honours most humble & mo
obedient Servant,

HOR^o. SHARPE.

Govr. Morris.

* Referred to in Col. Records, Vol. VI. p. 226.

Indorsed.—"Decem^r. 10, 1754.*

Gov. Sharpe,

Of the numbers of the French & Indians at and near Ohio.

Rec'd Decem^r, 16th.

French at Monongahela,	200
lately arrived there,	1100
Indians lately arrived there,	70
French at the upper fort,	400
Indians there,	200
	1970

" Besides Indians at Monongahela, before the arrival of ye last seventy."

R. Peters to Geo. Croghan, 1754.

Dear Sir:

I have the pleasure of yours by James Ennis, & shall take another time to answer the part relating to your own private Affairs and the Hint you give me about ye method of obtaining a discharge.

Your present charge, if faithfully performed, will do more than any thing in your favour and dispose the Legislature well towards you.

If, notwithstanding what the Governor has said at the Instance of the Assembly concerning the Removal of the Indians from Auckquick to a place nearer the Inhabitants, you shall be of Opinion that Auckquick is the best place and ought to be fortified for the Security of the Provinces, pray tell your mind freely to the Governor. Will not it be impossible for Indians & White people to live together? Will not there be an eternal Intercourse of Rum and a perpetual Scene of quarrelling? Pray, think well of all the mischiefs arising from such a Removal, nor be induced by any other Considerations than the publick Good and Safety of the back Inhabitants to give your Opinion in favour of a Removal.

Is it not absolutely necessary for the Settlers in Cumberland County to have a Place of Security to the West of the Blue Hills, and on this side the Allegeny Hills? if so, Can there be a more proper place than Auckquick?

Urge this Point on all the reasoning you are master of, if you think in this manner as I am told you do, to the Governor & insist that a Stockado be made this Winter. What is the Charge of Carriage to a matter of this Importance, rather than this should be in the way, Cannot you put it into the heads of the Indians to fetch their own Provisions from the Inhabitants, & so save that Expence?

* See reply, p. 216.

Auckquick ought to be made strong, and then it will be a good Barrier—indeed, there should be two places over the Blue Hills well fortified, or we shall lose the Indians.

I wou'd willingly have Scarroyady go away with a good Opinion of this Governm^t^. The House have voted £20,000 pounds, and I hope will offer such a Bill for the raising it as will be agreed to by the Governor; but I do not know enough to say either one way or the other.

M^r^. Montour is in Town, and will, I suppose, stay long enough to bring you the Event of this Vote.

I will, likewise, give him the answer of this Government to the Delawares, Shawenes Speeches to M^r^. Weiser, when last at Auckquick, which are thought of great moment, & in which Governor & Assembly do join.

I am,
Sir,
Your assured Friend
& humble Servant,

Philad^a^, 10th Dec^r^, 1754. RICHARD PETERS.

Geo. Croghan, Esqr.

Indorsed—

Mr Peter's Letter to Mr Croghan.

Gov. Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1754.

Boston, Decr 17th, 1754.

Dear Sir,

Many thanks to you for all your kindness to Jack; He soon returns to you, like a bad penny. I shall be extremely oblig'd to you for your favour in encouraging Enlistm^ts^ into my Regim^t^, by your Countenancing him in the shape of a Recruiting Officer. I flatter myself it may be for the publick Service, as well as my own and Jack's in particular, as his success in recruiting may facilitate my Obtaining a Company for him in my Regim^t^, in the first step.

I find by your late Message and Speech to the Assembly within your Governm^t^, that the French are as much in Motion upon the Ohio as we are at Boston. I hope that will instill a little into them, and more into Maryland and Virginia. I can't but think the Maryland Commander in Chief makes a poor figure with his single Company rais'd in his own Governm^t^.

I detain'd the ship wch sailed from hence for London on Monday, till I could get the Message and an Extract of your Speech copy'd

out for Ld Halifax, as I imagine that Vessell might be the first Opportunity of conveying them to England.

Surely these Commotions will drive the Spirit of Quietism out of your Assembly; and I hope they may turn to the advantage of the publick, and your own in the End.

I would beg the favour of you to give my Complim^ts to Govr Tinker and your predecessor, M^r. Hamilton. I will do myself the honour to write to the former by next post.

My hands are full at present, as you will easily imagine, with different matters, wch inevitably throw me into a hurry, wch I hope will be a sufficient Apology for the Abruptness of this Letter.

Be assur'd, Dear Sir, that I wish you all possible success for your own sake, as well as that of the publick; and that I shall, with great pleasure, receive and execute any Commands from you in my power, being with great truth and Esteem,

Dear Sir,

Your Honour's most faithfull

& Obedient Servant,

W. SHIRLEY.

P. S.—I refer you to Jack for all particulars of our movements here.

Indorsed—

Govr Shirley—By his son John, who he sent to recruit for his regiment, rec^d Jany 20.

Gov. Morris to Gov. Sharp, 1754.

Philad^a., Decr. 17, 1754.

Sir,

I was Yesterday favored with Yours of 10th Inst.,* which I shall this day lay before the Assembly. They have sent me a Bill for raising £20,000 for the King's Use, but in such a manner that I cannot consistent with his Majesty's Instructions pass it, and am now very busy in preparing a message to them upon ye head, & am not without some hopes y^t they will encrease ye Sum & give it in a Way more consistant wth the Royal Orders. But whatever is ye Result of our present Sitting You may depend on knowing, and in ye meantime shall be glad to be informed of what is doing & proposed to be done in ye Governments to ye Southward of This. You

* See page 213.

will allow me to assure You of my hearty Wishes for the Success of the English upon the present Occasion, and have the Honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient &
most humble Servant,
ROBT. H. MORRIS.

Gov. Sharpe.

Indorsed—17th Decr. 1754. Copy, Govr. Morris's Letter to Govr. Sharpe.

Petition of Germans in Philadelphia, 1754.

Its humbly requested that the Governor would please to take the present unhappy Situation of ye poor Germans dispersed thro' this City & the Neighbourhood under his Consideration.

Our Complaint is not so much of such as are called Sick Houses, that is Houses hired by the Merchants for the Reception of their Sick, tho' we have Reason to fear that there is not such sufficient Provision of Food, Cloathing & Fuel made for the sick, even in those Houses as their Weak Condition and the Severity of the Weather requires.

But our cheif Complaint is on the behalf of such as the Importers don't look upon as under their Care, having as they term it, discharged themselves of them. These are People in Years, others with several small Children, & especially Widows with small Children, who not being able to pay their Passages, nor fit to be bound out as Servants, the Merchants have discharged upon their own security, or after interchangeably binding them one for another, generally keeping their Chests which contains their Cloaths, Tools, &c., & often best beding as a farther Security, Many of these are now dispersed as Lodgers in many Houses in Town, in the outskirts, & in the small Plantations near it, generally destitute of Necessaries, not only to restore them to Health, but even to keep them alive; such as are able go a begging to the Terror & Danger of the Inhabitants, who from the smell of their Cloaths when brought near a Fire, & infectious Disorder which many of them are not free from, apprehend themselves in great Danger. And those who are not able to beg must inevitably Perish of Misery and Want, as its believed Scores if not Hundreds have already done this fall. It's therefore earnestly requested that the Governour would please to direct that a particular inquiry may be made in this melancholy Case.*

* "Read in Council, December 21, 1754," by Richard Wistar. Indorsement, no minute of that date.

Indorsed.—Case of Germans Sick, delivered in Council, Saturday the 21st December, 1754, by Richard Wistar, & read, after which the Govr. examined.

George Croghan to R. Peters, 1754.

Decr 23d, 1754.

Dr Sr,

I Received yr feavor two Days Ago, and has answerd his honour's Leter to Me in the Best Manner I Could as to Moveing the Indians. I think it would be of very Ill Consequence, for I think they are full Near ye Inhabitance unready; there was one White Man killd this Sumer unready by an Indian in a Drunken frolick att the foott of the Toskerrora Valey, and if all those was to be in the Inhabitance, what would be ye Consequance, butt Constantly Roiting and quareling. I hope you have had ye Plesher of Seeing Scarrady before Now, on his Jorney to Onondago. I Don't know what will be Come of the Back parts, unless there be a Stockcado fort putt up on this Side ye Blue hills; as Certainly the Indians Come to ye Verginia Camp which ye See Menshond in My Leter to his honour, are Spies come to view ye Country and know our Strenth, for I am Certian there is a greatt body of French and Indians at ye French fort on Ohio. I Shall Leay outt the £100 Sent for ye Indians Imeadetly as ye price of grain is Riseing on Acount of ye Call att ye Camp, and I think there Should be a quantity purchest to Suply in ye Spring while itt is Chape, if his honour thinks proper to order Me to purshess A quantity of Corn and wheatt, I will, and Draw on you fer ye Mony, butt Lett ye quantity be Menshond and Lett Me have a Line from you that will Impower Me purshess So Much and Draw fer itt, as you know ye Countrey pople are Scruplos and itt Must be bought of Many peple, and ye Sooner ye orders Comes the Beter, as I am Shure provisions will be very Dear in the Spring; his honour writes Me About ye Indians hunting. I aShure you all ye Indians hear has Nott killd 100 Dear this year, they are afread to go hunting for fear of ye Enemy and ye Must Certianly know ye Danger Impending, as ye Goverment Complains of ye Cost of Caridge, I make a present of ye Carridge of my horses till Scarrady Comes back. I Don't know how to Do for a few goods to give Some of ye Indians that is in great want; a Machcoat or a Shert Now & then, and to pay Mesingers that brings News from Ohio, that absolutly Should be well paid; his honour has ordered Me to Suplye Some triffles to those in Nesesety, hear is ye half king's famely in a pour Condition and Alequeapy ye old quine is Dead and Left Several Children, and Scarrady's Wife & Seven Children Should be given Something in his abstance, pray give Me yr advice in those affairs, I shall be as frugall

as in My power, the Indians Expences wont be Near so high Now, as I Suplye them Cheeffly with Corn, butt I think they should have a hog or two given some times. I am Dr Sr,

yr Most humble Servant,

GEO. CROGHAN.

Sr. Please to feavor Me with an answer as Soon as posable by a Safe hand.

Directed.

For Richard Peters, Esquire, in Philadelphia.

Indorsed.

George Croghan's Letter to Richard Peters. 23d Dec'r, 1754.*

GEO. CROGHAN TO GOVR. MORRIS, 1754.

Decr ye 23d, 1754.

May itt Plese your honour,

I am Oblidgd to advertise the Inhabitance of Cumberland County in yr honour's Name, nott to barter or Sell Spiretus Liquers to the Indians or to any person to bring amongst them, to prevent ye Indians from Spending thire Cloase, tho' I am oblidgd to give them a Cag Now & then my self for a frolick, but that is Atended with no Expence to ye Goverment nor no bad Consequences to ye Indians as I Do itt butt onst a Month, I hope your honour will aprove of this Proceeding, as I have Don itt to Prevent ill Consequences atending ye Indians if they should be kept always Infleamd with Liquors.

I am yr honour's, most
Humble and obedient
Servant,

GEO. CROGHAN.

P. S. This Dos Nott go by Express.

Directed.

In His Majestie's Service.

To The Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esquire, Governour of the Province of Pennsylvania, In Philadelphia.

Indorsed.

George Croghan's Lre to the Governor, 23d Dec'r, 1754.

* Referred to, Col. Rec. Vol. VI., p. 226.

Gov. Morris to Gov. De Lancey, 1754.

Sir,

I take the Liberty to recomend to you two Indian Chiefs, one of the Onieda nation and the other a Seneca. The former, named Scarraidy, Is a faithfull friend of the English, is now going to Onandago at the request of the six Nations, among whom he has a considerable weight, and is charged with messages of importance from the Western Indians, and from this Government & Virginia and Maryland. There came with him to this town one of the Chiefs of the Mohawks, upon a message from the Oundats, Twightwees, and other nations West of the Ohio, to know what the English intended to do, signifying that they were still our friends, and would shew themselves such upon a proper occasion.

I have employ'd this man to return to those nations, and have given him a message to them, inviting their wariors to a meeting that is to be held with the Six nations, & other Indians, at or near Winchester, the next Spring. I am, Sir, &c.

Decr 24th, 1754.

Govr Delancey.

Indorsed—

Draft of Letter to Govr Delancey recommending two Indian Chiefs in their way to Onandago.

Gov. Morris to Sir Thomas Robinson, 1754.

Philad^a, Decem^r 24th, 1754.

On the 3d of October Last I arrived here, and I Took upon me the Government of this Province of Pennsylvania, and of the Countys of New Castle, Kent, and Sussex, upon Delaware, which is a Distinct Government from Pennsilvania. At the first meeting of the Assembly after my Arrival, which was on the 15th of October, I strongly recommended to them the taking measures for the defence of the Country against the French, the steady uniformity of whose Conduct was sufficient to Convince us that their Views were no Less than to make themselves masters of these Colonies, and they assured me in answer thereto, that they would Afford assistance when the Manner in which it might be usefull was pointed out to them, and they then, without doing any thing, adjourned themselves to the 2d Instant, agreeable to a right they Claim of sitting upon their own adjournments; on the 3d Instant, when they met again, I Entered more Particularly into the state of the Frontiers, haveing during their recess furnished myself with the necessary Intelligence, and

then laid before them not only your Letter of ye 5th of July, which I had Just before received, but also the state & Condition of the French forts, with their number of regular troops and Indians they then had at Ohio, as also the Condition of the English forces that were drawn together upon this occasion, and the wavering state of the Indians of the Six Nations, and upon the whole strongly recommended it to them to make Immediate and ample Provision for the security of the Province.

Upon this they sent me up a Bill for striking 40,000^{lb} in Bills of Credit, 20,000^{lb} of which they Ordered to be Paid into my hands, to be apply'd to the King's use in such manner as I Should think fit, and for Sinking the same Proposed to Contintinue the Excise on Liquors retailed in this Province till June, in the year 1766; and out of the Money arising thereby, it was Proposed to sink and distroy 2000 a Year of those Bills till the whole of those Bills should be distroyed.

I returned to the House of Assembly, and by Message of ye 17th Instant, signified to them that I Could not Give my Consent to it, as it was for Emitting Paper Money without a Suspending Clause, but at the Same time told them I would Consent to a Bill for striking any sum they might think the Exigency of Affairs required, Provided funds were establised for sinking the same in five years, that being the term Prescribed by an act of Parliament for regulating the Paper Currency in the Neighbouring Governments.

On the 10th Instant I had the Honour to receive his Majesty's Commands, Signified by your Letter of the 26th of October Last, which I laid before the Assembly the next day, and by a Message, Strongly recommended to them to make Provision for the Several matters required of this Province by his Majesty, but they Signified to me that they would give money in no other way but that Proposed by the Bill above-mentioned; that they thought the sum Proposed Sufficient to answer all Purposes, and therefore Insisted on my Passing it in the Shape it was at first Proposed: upon this I represented to them the danger their Country was in; the wrong time they had Chosen to revive a dispute that had Subsisted many years between them & the Late Govr Concerning the forsce of the King's Instructions; that this in Particular was Issued at the request of Both Houses of Parliament, and Intended to Enforce the act of the sixth of Queen Ann, for Asscertaining the rates of foreign Coins in the Plantations, which was and is most Shamefully Slighted and disregarded in this & the Neighbouring Provinces. But all I have said or can say, I am affraid will answer no Purpose; however, as they are still sitting, they may yet do Some thing, and I shall not fail to use my utmost Endeavours to Perswade them to act a Reasonable and dutifull Part upon the Present occasion.

But as the Assembly have Insisted on my Passing the Bill for striking 40,000^{lb} in the shape they have Proposed it; as they will give money upon no other terms, & havcing in that way offered

20,000lb, & will Endeavour to Excuse themselves from blame by haveing made that offer, I think it my duty upon this occasion to lay before you the reasons that Induced me to refuse my Assent to to that Bill, which I have in Part Given in my several Messages to them, Copys of which I do myself the Honour to send with this, and hope my Conduct in this Particular will merit your Approbation.

1st. The Bill Proposed in the Ten years of its Continuance will raise the Sum of 40,000lb, of which only twenty thousand Pounds is Given to the Kings use, the remainder is to be dispos'd of as the House of Assembly, for the time being shall think fit, without any Check or Controle, and a future assembly, for any thing that is or can be known to ye contrary, may dispose of it to Purposes very detrimental to the Publick, & Even to such as are Inconsistent with their dependence upon the Brittish Crown & nation, especially when it is Considered that the Assembly are chosen annually, and that a majority of the Electors are Germans, unacquainted with the English Language, and the nature of our dependance, and Great numbers of them are Roman Catholics.

2d. Because, the Assembly have nigh £15,000 in their own hands, and by Laws now in force, must receive £15,000 more in two years, all which they Can dispose of without Check or Controle, and not only refuse to apply any Part of that money to the Kings use, But Insist on an addition thereto, Equal to what they offer for the Public service, upon this important occasion, and will not Give the one without the other.

3d. Because, By the Bill Insisted on, the Assembly, for the time being, are to have the appointment of the Provincial treasurer and the Collectors or Excise Officers, throughout the Province, all of whom are thereby made accountable to the Assembly only.

4th. 1. Because the said Bill as it is, for Emiting Paper money, is not Onley Contrary to the Royall Instruction for that Purpose, to the Governor of this Province for the time being, but the time for the Currency of ye Bills of Credit, is Longer than the rule Laid down by Act of Parliament, for the Emission of Paper Money upon Emergencies in the neighbouring Provinces.

For the above reasons I refused to Give my Consent to that Bill, Tho I did not mention them all in the Message I sent to the Assembly, as I was fearfull of bringing on a dispute that might Imped his Majestys Service at this Important juncture, and was in hopes, by Insisting on his Majestys Instruction, only to have Prevailed upon the Assembly to have given money upon the Present occasion.

You will permit me to Assure you that I shall, to the utmost of my Power, Promote his Majestys service upon all occasions, but have little hopes of success, while I have an Assembly composed of men who are Principald against defending themselves or their Country, and who will Come into no measures, but such as have a more direct tendaney to aggrandize their own Power than to Promote the Pub-

lick Service, at a time when they know a Considerable Part of their Province is in the Possession of the French.

I take the Liberty to refer you to what I have said to them upon the Present occasion, and have the Honour to be.

Letter Gov. Morris to Thomas Penn, 1754.

Sir:

I am set down to Lay before you the severall matters that have happened since my last, but if I am not so full upon these heads as I should be, you will attribute it to the Hurray of Business in which I am and have been Employed, which has hardly allowed me a moment's liesure since the assembly met, and I depend on Mr. Peters to supply what I am deficient in. On the third Instant I opened the Sessions by a speech, Calculated to rouse the assembly from their Supineness to a sense of their Danger, and Induce them to act with vigour in defence of their Country; they declared themselves Pleased with what I had said, and by their message in answer thereto, told me they had almost unanimously voted twenty thousand Pounds for the Kings use, and in a few days sent me a Bill for striking £40,000, twenty thousand of which was to be Paid to me, to be disposed of for the Kings use, and the remaining £20,000 was to Exchange ragged Bills; and for Sinking what was given for the Kings use, the Excise act was Continued for ten years from the time it would have Expired, (that is) to the year 1766, out of which £2,000 was to be sunk Every year till the whole £20,000 was distroyed, and as the former act of Excise was to be Continued, the disposition of the Surplus was thereby Lodged in the assembly. Upon receiving this Bill, I was for amending it in that Particular, & making the Surplus money subject to act of the Legislature only, But Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Allen, & Mr. Peters, were all against me in opinion, and at Last Convinced me, that by Contending under the Kings Instruction, There was great hopes of the Assemblys Giving Considerably to the Kings use, But if the Bill was amended upon the other Point they would Immediately raise a Clamour against the Proprietors, & refuse to Give any thing but in their Own way, upon this I sent them the Message herewith of yr 17th Instant, after which I was honour'd with yours of ye 17th of October, by way of Boston, and at the same time Received one from Sr Thomas Robinson, of ye 26th, and the next day Laid Sr Thomas's Letter before the House, & by a Message of ye 19th Instant, recommended to them to make Provision for the severall matters Expected from this Province by the Crown, but while that Message and Letter were before them, they sent me the Long Message of ye 20th Instant, in which they incert almost at Large the state of the Case for Sr D. Ryders opinion, and insist on my Passing the

Bill, relying very much upon Governor Thomas's continuing the Excise for ten years, and striking five thousand Pounds without a suspending Clause; their whole Message is very Poorly drawn up, and you will observe in the Close of it that they desire the Proprietary Instructions to be laid before them. This Message they followed with another the next day, in answer to mine, with the Secretary of States Letter, wherein they again insist on my Passing the Bill they had sent me. To these two Messages I have sent em what I think a full answer, and was for Putting a Clause objecting to the Bill, on account of the Assemblys haveing the disposition of the Superplus money, but Mr. Allen, Mr. Hamilton, and Mr. Peters, were again strongly against me, and as they all Knew the People much better than I do, and have more frequent opportunitys of being acquainted with their sentiments, they assured me they would still give money if I insisted on the Kings Instruction alone; However, I did not think it right to let the Assembly think I had no other objections to the Bill than those I had made, and therefore added the Clause that you will find marked N. B., or Elce they might when that matter Came into dispute, have Charged me with want of Candor in not making the severall objections I really had to the Bill when it was before me.

Thus stands the Controvercy at Present, and if before Budden goes, who I have detained upon the Present occasion, there be any further steps taken you may depend on having an account of them, and, if not, you shall have the result of the Present Sitting by some of the Ships to Ireland. I thought I could not have a better opportunity of Calling upon 'em to put the Province in a Posture of defence, than when they desired your Instructions to be laid before them, and I am in hopes the manner in which that is done will have some weight with them, as they are Informed that the affairs of the Colony's will be under the Consideration of Parliament, and are afraid of being Excluded the Legislature.

The Connecticut affair, notwithstanding what Pass'd at Albany, has taken a very bad turn, and a Purchase is actually made from the Indians for the 41st degree of Lattitude, beginning ten miles to the Eastward of the Eastern branch of Susquehannah, & Extending westward two Degrees of Longitude; soon after I returned from New Castle I wrote to Colle. Johnston, and sent for Hendrick down to this Place, but thought it Proper not to write to the Govr of Connecticut till Hendrick had taken some measures with the Six Nations, but upon being Informed That some of the purchasers had been over to Wymack to take a View of the Lands, had drawn in some of the Inhabitants of this Province to join them, who were returned with them to a Grand meeting to beheld on ye 21st of Novr, at Hartford, I thought it right to state the whole matter in a letter to the Govr of Connecticut, as that Letter would be the foundation of all future Proceedings, whereupon I wrote the Long Letter of which you will have a Coppy in your box, and which I hope will

merrit your approbation; with this Letter I sent Mr. Armstrong into Connecticut, with Instructions to get what Intelligence he Could Concerning the affair, and what he Picked up you will find in his report Coppy of which you have herewith, and also of Letters that I received from Mr. Alexander and his son, and from Mr. Pownall, to all of whom I wrote upon the subject, and as Pownal was then Going to Boston through Connecticut, I desired he would send me what Information he Could Get Concerning their Scheme; young Mr. Alexanders observations I think very judicious, and home to the Point. There are in town three Indian Chiefs of the Oneida, Seneca, & Mohawk nations, two whom Mr. Peters Proposes to Employ upon this head, at Onandago where they are Going, and if the Six nations disown the Purchase, and some Vigourous measures are taken with those that first attempt to settle, this affair may Possibly Blow over, but such is the effect that the Impunity of the Jersey Rioters has upon the People here, that numbers in this Province are ready to Joyn the Connecticut People and take titles under them & this Purchase, and hold the Land by force as the Jersey men do, and if the Indians dont hinder them, I am afraid all the force of this Government will not be sufficient to do it, I mean without aid of the assembly, and unless they are Pleased in other matters no assistance is to be Expected from their hands, but the Contrary.

I send you herewith a state of the Province of Pensilvania Put in my hands a few days ago, and I find is Intended for the Press in England, In order to Induce the Parliament to take measures for the future security of this Province, by Excluding the Quakers from the Legislature. Those who knew the affairs of the Country say it is well drawn up, But that you will judge of, being better acquainted wth the severall matters set forth in it than any body Elce. The Persons Concern'd in this state are very much your friends, and as they Insist upon taking this measure I thought it Proper you should Know it, and have a Coppy of what was Intended for the Press.

Indorsed.

Copy. Letter to Mr. Penn, Decr 24th, 1754.

Address of Germans, 1754.

Sir,

We have Considered further Concerning our Address* to his Honr Robert Hunter Morris. That as there is a Great Number of Germans all over ye province of Pensilvania, which might perhaps not have heard nor indentet any thing, neither of the late accusation against the said Nation in General, and may be less of our late Address to his Honr ye Governor, concerning ye same, and for ye more satisfac-

* See page 217.

tion to them all which is ignorant in it, we thought it proper to put it in public print, both in English and Dutch; if his Hon^{r} ye Governour has not already put the Copy to the press^{e}, and therefor hope his Hon^{r} will not Take it amiss: because it is only to that Intent that our Protestant Country people might see all our reason and motive to our actions; Especially in ye Dutch Copy we Intent to make a short Introduction to shew them both our concern as also to remind them of their Loyal duty to the Crown of Great Britain, as likewise his Hon^{rs} answer to ye sd address, of which I send you by this ye Copy to Correct; pray do not take it amiss, as you have been pressent you are most able to add where I have omitted, and olter where I might not have used the very same Expressions, His Hon^{r} made to the said Address. I should have nothing against it if his Hon^{r} ye Governour should see his own ans^{r} as much as I could remember thereof, before it is put to print and correct himself, what he pleases thereof, and so send it back to Mr. Kepely in Philadelphia, who is desired to forwed ye same to print.

And with this I remain with many salutations,

Sir your Humble Servant,

HENRY ANTES.

Frederick Township,
December ye 24th, 1754.

Directed.

To Mr. Richard Peters, Secretary.

Gov'r. Morris to Gov'r. Dinwiddie, 1754.

Sir,

Notwithstanding the dangerous situation these Colonys are at present in from the invasion of the French and their vicinity to the Inhabitants of this province in particular, I have not been hitherto able to prevail on our assembly to give one farthing towards the removal of those dangerous neighbours. You will see by my speech at the opening of the present session & my several messages since, which I send you herewith, how I have pressed this matter upon them, but all in vain, surely there never was a set of People in the world, so stupidly infatuated, or so blind to their country's danger as the Assemblys of these Colonys have been upon the present occasion, but if any of 'em are entitled to stand foremost upon this infatuated List, it is the people of this province, who are rich, flourishing and numerous, and not only declined taking up arms upon the occasion, but even refuse to afford the assistance or supply the articles

expected from them by the Crown and recommended by the Secretary of state's letter of October ye 26th, last.

They did, indeed, offer me a Bill for paying into my hands twenty thousand pounds, to be disposed of for the King's use in such manner as I should think fit, But they took care that this bill should not only be directly contrary to a Royal Instruction concerning the force of which they have had a long dispute with the Late Governor, but that a sum equall to that proposed for the King's use, should remain in their hands to be disposed of by the Assembly for the time being. Such a bill you are sensible, I could by no means consent to as the Assembly have already nigh fifteen thousand pounds, & must receive as much more in two years, no part of which will they give upon the present occassion, and even expect a considerable addition to their own stock, all of which, a future Assembly may dispose of, to purposes inconsistent with the publick good and the Just dependance of this Province upon the Crown, especially as the majority of the Electors here are Germans, unacquainted with our Language or Constitution, and many of them Roman Catholicks.

These reasons I have assigned to the Secretary of state for not passing that Bill, and I flatter myself I shall stand excused as I have done my utmost to prevail with the Assembly to come into reasonable measures, and as they are still sitting, shall continue to do so, But must own that I have no expectations from a set of men that are, or pretend to be, principal'd against defending themselves or their Country, & who, at such a time as this, chuse to enter into a dispute concerning the force of the King's Instructions, and pursuing measures rather calculated to aggrandize their own power, than to Promote the publick service.

I heartily Congratulate you upon the resolutions taken at home, for the defence and protection of these Colonys, and now have hopes of seeing these bold intruders treated as they deserve, which I dispaired of doing while the matter was left to these provinces. But I find inactivity and disagreem^t of these Colonys have put the government at home upon thinking of a method for uniting them for their common defence, which I hope will be completed this Session of Parliament and things put upon such a footing as to leave no room for future contests between governors and assemblys. I expect some officers here to recruit Shirley's and Pepperell's regim'ts, and if our assembly would give the proper encouragement, I imagine could easily raise a thousand men in very little time.

Since writing what is above, some French deserters came to this Place, the Examination of one of whom I send you under this Cover, which is Confirmed by Other two, and tho' I believe the French numbers are represented by these men larger than they realy are, yet I am convinced they are much increased, and I am affraid will be too strong for the forces his Majesty has destined for this service, unless these Colonys will make a Considerable addition thereto.

If the forces should be arrived I beg my compliments to Genl.

Braddock, and shall be glad of an Opportunity of promoting the Publick Service upon the Present occasion, and am,

Sir,

Your Most Obedt Humble St.,

ROBERT H. MORRIS.

Jany'ry 7, 1755,
Philada.

P. S. Our Assembly have voted £5000 for Providing provisions for his Majesty's forces employed against the French, which they have Put into the hands of five of their own members to dispose of.

Indorsed.

Draft of Letter, Gov'r Dinwiddie, Dec'r 27th, 1754.

Gov. Sharpe to Gov. Morris, 1754.

Annapolis, December 27th, 1754.

Sir,

Your favour of the 3d I have had the pleasure to receive since my Return hither, & most heartily wish the hopes you entertain of your Assembly's Disposition may be fully answered, tho' my not having yet received a Line of Advice makes me a little doubtful of your Success. You will be pleased to think that your kind mention of Captain Rutherford has confirmed the Opinion I had before entertained of him, & that He shall not want my Regard & particular Notice. Your Care in communicating to me so speedily the Intelligence you had received of the arrival of such a Reinforcement, at Monongahela much obliges me, I have also received the same account from Colonel Innes, of which I acquainted you by the last post. As the Conduct & Behaviour of that Mr. Croghan, a Copy of whose Letter you inclosed me, was represented to me in no very favourable or amiable light, I cannot help taking the Liberty to mention some things that have been said of him, & to desire you, unless you are satisfyed of the falsity of them, to have him a little observed. It has been asserted that he is a Roman Catholick, and that one Campbell a person of the same persuasion generally resides at his house, that several Circumstances afford room to suspect that this Campbel paid a visit some time since to the French Fort, but indeed I should not have given much Credit to such a story as this without it had been supported by stronger proofs than were offered to me, had not the Behaviour of Mr. Croghan in opening a Letter of the greatest Consequence some time since from Mr. Stobo, which was not directed to him, & taking as it is asserted a Copy thereof

did not incline me to be a little suspicious of his integrity & fidelity; in Excuse of this Step of his I am told he urges the importunity of the Indians who were with him, & pressed him to let them know what advice the Letter contained; if that was the Case He ought by no means to have taken such measures to satisfy their Curiosity, but I cannot learn that they even made him a Request of that Sort, or were very desirous of knowing the Contents of the Letter, it has been also reported that Mr. Croghan had Remittances made him to pay the Indian who brought him that Letter very hansomely, but that he retained the Money & delivered only a small parcell of Goods far inferiour to it in value. Information was also given me that He by forging & telling them false stories diverted a Number of Indians from coming to the Camp at Wills Creek some time ago, in order to serve thereby some private Ends of his own; if his Behaviour has deservedly subjected him to such Censures, you will I doubt not be able to make some Discovery & deal with him as he might deserve. One Gerrard Pendigrass an Indian Trader on Juniata has been represented to me as a person well acquainted with the Back Country, if you will order him to be enquired out & endeavour to learn what Character He bears, & if he is willing to attend the Troops as a Guide on Occasion you will very much oblige

Your Honour's most humble
& obedient Servant,

HORO'. SHARPE.

P. S. Your favour of the 17th by the Post I have received, & beg you will forward the Inclosed packet to New York, from whence I have nothing heard as yet.

Indorsed.—Decem^r. 27, 1754.

GOV. SHARPE,

Complaining of George Croghan, and desiring one Gerrard Pendigrass an Indian Trader, might be enquired for and sent him.

GOVR. MORRIS TO THOS. PENN, 1754.

Philad^a., Decem^r. 28th, 1754.

Sir,

I send this by Express to Reedy Island in hopes it may overtake Budden,* and send you Enclosed the Examination of a French deserter from the Fort on the Ohio, giving an account that there are now nigh six thousand regular French troops there, and in what manner they are Employed. I thought it my duty to give you, and by your means the Kings Minesters the earlyest account I Could of

* See page 223.

this matter, which is Confirmed by two other Deserters whose Examinations w^e have not time to take as I am afraid of missing the Ship. I Propose upon this Piece of Intelligence to recommend it to the Assembly to raise a number of men in addition to what the Crown has destined for this Service, but they are in such a temper as give me very Little room to hope for any success, I am S^r in great hast

Your most obed^t and most
Faithfull Humble Servt.,

ROBT. H. MORRIS.*

I send one of the s^d by Budden, & another by a Ship to Bristoll.

Indorsed.—Coppy to Mr. Penn.

John Harris to Edw'd. Shippen, 1754.

Paxton, 28th Decem^r. 1754.

Sir,

This Week Cap^tn Andrew Montour has made his Interest so good with my Bro. William Harris, as to perswade him to goe with him to our Camp, & Engages that he shall Receive a Lieutenants Commission under him, upon the strength of w^ch & the Willingness to serve his King & Countrey, he Resolves to goe, Their Company of White men I Expect to have Compleated by Munday Next or Day following, they Expect to March for Wills Creek by the Way of Oughwhick, in Order To Take a Number of Indians with them, some Indians thats here leaves their Famileys & setts off With them with all Cheerfulness Imagenable, & I'll assure you upon my Bro^rs Inclining to goe, the Young men ab^t here Inlisted Imediately with the small Encourag^t I Gave them, wch was but my Desire, & I hope that this Company will act their Part so well as to be a Creditt to our River Men, wch almost the whole Consists of. Its Rumoured here that there is now Taken prisoner lately at our Camp, Fifteen French Indians upon wch I hear our Indians att Oughwhick, is to goe & Determin their Fate Either Death or Liberty, I only mention this, but am not yet Certain of the Fact, (Excuse Blunders). I am Sir, y^r

Verry Humble Servt.,

JOHN HARRIS.

Directed.—To Edward Shippen, Esqr., att Lancaster.

* See Gov'rs. Message and Depositions, Colon. Rec., Vol. VI., pp. 223, 225.

Gov. Morris to Gov. Shirley, 1754.

Dr Sir:

I am and have been so much taken up with an Assembly, who seem determined to stand still & see their Country Over run by the French, That I have not been Able to write to you upon Several Matters that I want to have your Sentiments upon, nor before this to Congratulate You upon your appointment to the Command of one of the Regiments to be raised in this Country, which you may assure your Self I shall redily afford you my Best Assistance to fill, and which I really believe will be kept up for a long time, as the steps taken by the French must Probably bring on a war, the scene of which will be Chiefly in America. I have not now time to Enter upon other matters, and Can only send you the Inclosed Affidavit, as it Contains Intelligence of Importance, and is Confirmed by two other Deserters, whose Examinations will be taken to-morrow, but I Could not let this Post Go without Sending you this Piece of Intelligence, and begging the favour of you to forward the Inclosed to Sr Thomas Robinson, in which I have sent him one of those Examinations, and Last night sent away a special Messenger to Overtake some ships bound to England and now Lying at the mouth of Our River, with the same Intelligence, so that I am in hopes they will receive this account of the French strength some time in February, & time enough to send Proper orders upon the occasion, for Certainly it will not be safe to Attempt to remove so strong a body of French troops with the English force destined to this Service.

My Assembly are still sitting, but I have not yet Prevailed with them to Give any thing upon the Present Occasion, and I really dispair of doing it, (tho' my best Endeavours Shall not be wanting) as they are Entring into an Ill timed dispute about the force of Royal Instructions and those Given by the Proprietors.

You may depend on hearing more fully from me in a Little time, and I need not now Assure you that I shall be Glad of any Opportunity of Convincing you with how much Truth,

I am, Dear Sir,

Your Most Obedt & Most

Faithfull Humble Servant,

ROBT. H. MORRIS.

Philada., Decemr 29th, 1754.

Indorsed.—Copy to, Govr. Shirley.

Gov. Morris to Sir Thomas Robinson, 1754.

Sr:

I did myself the Honor to write you fully upon the affairs of this Province on ye 24th Instant, Since which I have received Intelligence by three deserters from the French Camp near the Ohio, That they have now there at their Lower fort upon that river between five and six thousand Regular Troops, besides Indians. The Intelligence is Contained in the Examamination Inclosed, which is Confirmed by the Other two deserters. I send this to Boston in hopes it may go sooner from thence, than what I have already sent Directly from this Province, and have the Honor to be,

Sir,

Your Most Obedt & Most
Humble Servant,
ROBT. H. MORRIS.*

Philadₐ., Decemr 29th, 1754.

Indorsed.—Copy to, Sir Thomas Robinson.

John Harris to R. Peters, 1754.

Paxton, Decemr 30th, 1754.

Sir:

I Design to-morrow to March with my Company, men Raised here, for Wills Creek, by the way of Oughwhick. I leave Under the Care of Jno. Harris Two Indian Familys, one of wch has been att his house Since the Death of the Half King, and has been so Kindly Treated that they don't Care to move to Oughwhick att this cold Season, & they may be as Cheap Maintain'd Here. I Ordered Jno. Harris to provide for them after the Frugalest Manner; all the men of the above sd Indian Familys goes to the Camp with me Chearfully, and are of the Mingoes, & were att the Skirmish when Laforce was Taken & his men. I Expect to Take a Number of Indians along with me to Oughwhick to the Camp where I Design to remain with Them; I'll assure you Jno. Harris's Kind Ussage to the Indians this fall has been of Much Service, & Ought to be properly Rewarded. I Hope Monnocatootha is before this Time left your City on his way for the Six Nations; the good Accounts from England lately will Spirit up our Indians much, & I trust have its Desired Effect.

I am, Sir,
Your Most Obedient,
Humble Servt. †

Directed.—To Richard Peters, Esq., in Philadelphia.

Indorsed.—John Harris's Letter to Richard Peters.

* See page 220. † See Col. Rec., Vol. VI., p. 226. No signature.

Gov. De Lancey to Gov. Morris, 1754.

New York, 30th December, 1754.

Sir:

I had the Honour of your Letter of the 24th* Instant by the two Indians you recommended to me. I sent for them to the Fort where the Council were met, and heard what they had to say, after which I ordered them to be taken care of; and shall give the Interpreter six pounds to defray their Expences to Albany: and have directed the Commissioners for Indian Affairs to shew Scarroyady proper Marks of Distinction, and to forward and assist him, his Companion and the Interpreter, with every thing necessary on their Journey.

Your Nephew, Staats, has had a Squabble with one of the Justices at Albany, upon which the Magistrates sent a Complaint against him with Affidavits, and it was proposed to order the Attorney-General to file an Information against him, but it was ordered that he should be bound to appear next Sessions of Oyer and Terminer, which is to be held in June, by which time I suppose the Matter will be cooled. I have desired him to live well with the People, and directed the Magistrates to endeavour that the People there live well with the Officers and Soldiers posted there for their Security.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient & most

humble Servant,

JAMES DE LANCEY.

Governor Morris.

Indorsed.—Decemr 30th, 1754, James De Lancey.

Detail of Indian Affairs, 1752–54.

1752.—240 Indians, headed by 2 French men, attackd a Twightwee Village, & killed 14 Indians & 1 Trader, & carried away 5 other Traders.

Message from a Twightwee Chief, with an account of this Attack.

1752.—John Pattin, an Indian Trader, came from London 26th Novr., 1750, he was taken Prisoner by the French at the Miama Fort; sent to old France; released at the Instance of Lord Albemarle. Sent to England, and there Examin'd. At Paris he sollicited for restitution, but without success, being told his Goods were confiscated for trading within the Limits of the French.

See Pattin's Journal & Map.

* See page 220.

1753, May 22. Govr. by message, acquainted the house that the County of Allegheny, in Ohio, was going to be invaded by an army of French & Indians, that the Govr. of Canada had avowed this hostile Invasion, before the Council of ye Six Nations, yet, tho' these Indians had forbid its asserting their Independence & the Property of the soil, yet the French would still persist, sets forth the consequences; requested to be enabled to assist the Indians

See Gov^rs. Message, p. 18.

George Henry, John Evans, James Devoy, Owen Nicholson, came from England. As they were trading beyond the Ohio, they were taken Prisoners by a Number of French Indians, wth a French Man at their head, who carried them to Quebeck, and from thence, sent them to Rochell, in Old France.

29. Trents L're., J. Galbreath, Jno. Harris, Mich. Teaffe, Rob. Calendar, Examind by the house. After wch ye state of Indian Affairs was considered.

30. £200 given for Condolence Presents to ye Twightwees; £600 Presents to the other Indian Nations, payable to ye Govr by the Traders.

1753, Augt. 29th. Govr. acquaints the House that he had sent Mr. Weiser to Onondago, intending to take his measures from the advices he should bring. The French were on ye march to the Ohio, & had dispatched several Parties of Indians before them.

Septr. 5. Conrad Weiser's Journal of his Journy to Albany, & ye Mohawks Country, together wth other Papers laid before ye ho.

October. Treaty with the Ohio Indians in 8ber Alexander Magenty, Indian Trader, trading wth. the Cuttawa Indians, allies of G^t. B., was, on the 26th Jany. last, taken Prisoner by a Party of French Indians, of the Caghnawago Nation, near Kantucky, a Western Branch of Ohio, who beat & abused, & sent him to Montreal.

1754, Laid before ye Ho., 14th Feb'y. Lre. from Ld. Holdernesse, of the 28th Aug^t., 1753, commanding him, in case of Encroachm^ts. by any foreign Prince, to draw forth the armed force of ye Prov., & repel force by force. Indian Trader, Bow, recommended by ye Lre. from the Commanding officer of the Fort on Bass River, of the 15th Dec^r., 1753. Legardeur de St. Pierre to Govr. Dunwiddie, by Col^l. Washington, sent with a Requisition, requiring him to retire, &c., wherein the Claims to ye Lands along the Ohio are avowed.

Do. N.B. The Assembly in their Message of this date, acknowledge the Gov^rs. Care in all Indian Affairs, & in all their other messages sent to Govr. Gordon, Govr. Thomas, & Govr. Hamilton.

20th. Andrew Montour, & Jno. Pattin, returned from Ohio. 26th. A Committee appointed to prepare an Indian Trade Bill. 27th. Assembly thanks Gov^rs. & Com^rs. at Carlisle, for their care, & express satisfaction with their conduct. Will bear the Expense of Com^rs. to Albany, gone wth. Govr. in character of Indian Traders.

March 8. Assembly resolve that the Papers & Evidences sent down by ye Govr's^ do not make it clearly appear, that the subjects of a foreign Prince have erected Forts within the undoubted Limits of this Government. Message y^t^ ye Limits had not been ascertained to y^eir^ satisfaction.

£100, st. to be paid to ye speaker, to be by him transmitted to the agent in G^t^. B., for ye service of this Province.

Assembly adjourn without granting supplies, & wth out Governors Consent, to the 6th May.

1754, April 2. Assembly called by writs to meet. Govr lays before them, Lres. of Govr Dinwiddie, & several other Papers. Proposes for supplys to assist Govr Dinwiddie.

4. Lres. of Govr De Lancey & Govr Shirley, laid before ye ho^e^ to acquaint them what was to be done at Albany.

5. The Question put, That a sum of money be at this time given to the King's use. Passed in ye affirmative, 18 to 16. Qu. put for £20,000. In ye negative, 25 to 8. £15,000, 23 to 10. £10,000, negative, 22 to 10. £5,000. In the negative, 22 to 10.

11. £500 given as a Present to the Indians, at the Treaty proposed to be held in June, at Albany.

12. A message y^t^ no sum would be given to ye King's use, proportionate to the occasion. Desire to adjourn to consult their Constituents to 13 May. Govr dissatisfied wth their Conduct & ye adjournment. Ho' altered time of adjournment to 6th May.

May 6. Message giving an Account of the French army of 4,000, wth 18 pieces of artillery, appearing before Trent's fort, and its surrender to them on the 17th Apr., recommending Union of the Colonies. That he had sent Mr. Weiser with a respectful message to ye Indians living on the borders of the Susquehanna, to be informed in what light the Hostilities of the French had been represented to them, & wh^r^ any, & what measures had been proposed to them in relation thereto.

Papers sent wth Message.

Col^l^. Washington's Lre. of ye 27 Apr.

Contrecour's summons to ye Commander of Trent's Fort.

Scarroyadys Speech, &c., to Gov^rs^ of Virg. & Conn.

Govr Dinwiddie's Lre. of 27 Apr.

Govr De Lancey's Lre. of 19th Apr.

Lre. from Commanding Officer at Oswego, to Govr of New York, of 27 March, giving an Acc^t^ of ye March of a Body of French Troops to the Ohio.

A Letter of Conrad Weiser's to ye Govr, containing an acco^t^ of his Journy to Shamokin, 2 May, wth a Paper of Indian News.

May 8. Qu. put for £20,000, to be given to ye King's use. No's 24 to 8. £15,000, No's 23 to 10.

£10,000 granted, 17 to 15. On an Excise for 10 years, w^ch^

Govr would not assent to, & thereupon, the house came to scandalous and abusive, & Resolves Assembly adjourned to the 19th Aug^{t}.

May 18. Govr demanded Copy of Minutes, wch were ordered to be printed, 19th, and not before a Copy was ordered to be given to ye Govr.

June. Congress held at Albany from 15th June to

August 6. Assembly was called by writ to meet to-day. Speech, giving an account of Col^{l}. Washington's Defeat, 3 July, & capitulation. Govr presses supplies. Half King & other considerable Indians retire into their Province. Petitions from Cumberland and Lancaster County for protection, arms, and ammunition. Commends to ye ho. to consider the defenceless state of ye Province, and provide means for security. Lays before them, minutes of ye Congress at Albany, whereby it appears that the Lands on the River Ohio do belong to the Indians of the Six Nations, & have been put under the Protection of the Crown of England. The Proceedings of the French have never received Countenance or approbation from the Six Nations. Comm^{s} drew up a Representation of the present state of the Colonies, & a Plan of a general Union, both wch Govr. recomends.

8. Petition from the Inhabitants of Donegal, setting forth that the Inhabitants are neither provided wth arms or ammunition, or under any kind of Discipline, praying y^{t} those who are willing to defend themselves and country, may be put into a proper Condition for Defence, and those who are not willing, may be obligd to pay.

Another Petition from a very considerable Number of the Inhabitants of the townp's of Paxton, Hanover, & Derry, to ye same purport.

9th. Message to provide for French Deserters.

August 9, 1754. Qu. put if £20,000 should be given to the King's use. Past in the negative, 21 to 11. If £15,000, past in the negative, 20 to 12.

Resolved, That £10,000 be given to the King's use.

Provisions voted for the maintenance of such Indians as have taken Refuge in this Province.

12. Question put. If the sum given to the King's use should be enlarged to £20,000. Past in the negative, 20 to 13.

Question, if to £15,000. Past in the affirmative, 25 to 8.

13. Bill for Striking the sum of £35,000 in Bills of Credit, and giving £15,000 thereof to ye King's use, sent up to the Govr.

Bill rejected by the Govr for reasons formerly assigned & mention^{d} y^{t} a new Govr may be soon expected.

Plan of Union of the Colonies referred to ye Cons^{n} of the next succeeding Assembly.

October 15. Mr. Morris, the new Governor's first speech, recommends the state of the Frontiers of this & ye neighbouring Provinces to ye Cons^{n} of ye ho^{e}.

16. Several Letters, Accounts & Papers relating to Indian Affairs,

whence they will know what has pass^{d} since the last Sitting of Assembly.

George Croghan's Lre. of 16 Augt from Auckquick.

Govr Hamilton's Lre. to G. Croghan, of 23^{d} Aug^{t}.

Conrad Weiser's Lre. to Gov. Hamilton, 13 Sept^{r}.

2 Lres. from G. Croghan to Gov. Hamilton, 30 Aug^{t}, and 27th 7br.

Jno. Harris's Lre. 5 8br.

Address of Assembly, they were in hopes to have received Instructions from the Crown how to conduct themselves on occasion of French Incroachm^{ts}. Lre. of E. of Holdernesse, of ye 28 Aug^{t}, 1753, is ye only Rule for their Governm^{t}. Adjourn, as it is not ye usual time for doing Business to 2^{d} Dec^{r}.

Dec. 3^{d}. Governor's speech to the Assembly. He lays before the House a Lre. from s^{r} Tho. Robinson, 5 July, conveying his Maj^{ties} express Commands not only to act vigorously in the defence of his Government, but to be aiding his Maj^{ties} other Colonies to repel hostile Attempts. Observes y^{t} the King's Ministers were on ye 5 July only informed of the French having driven some of the Virginia forces from Monongealo, & were erecting a Fort there, & y^{t} many things had happened since that have put our affairs on the Frontiers in a very bad situation, much worse y^{n} they can imagine. French have 1000 regular Troops at their Fort at Monongealo, & an additional Number of Cannon. Indians have removed to Canada, others are neutral, while the few who continue friends dare not be allow^{d}, and will give up our Cause if not protected. Uses many good argum^{ts} to induce them to grant supplies. Sends to ye ho^{e}.

Sr Tho. Robinson's Lre. of 5 July.

A Lre. from Govr. Dinwiddie of 8 Nov^{r}.

Do. from Govr Sharpe of same Date.

A Lre. from G. Croghan, 23 Nov^{r}.

Clauses Lres. to ye Sec'ry.

Govr acquaints the ho^{e} y^{t} some of the Chiefs of the Six Nations at Auckquick intend to go to the Council at Onondago, and expect in their absence to have their familys & ye other Indians supported.

Resolved, to give £20,000 to ye King's use, on the Extension of the Excise for 10 years.

Resolved, to allow reasonable charges arising on a suitable Provision to be made for ye maintenance of the Indians at Auckquick.

Message from the Ho^{e} y^{t} ye Treatment our Indian allies have always received from this Province, has great weight wth them, & y^{t} we have a large share in their affections, recommend to ye Govr if might not be more convenient to the Indians to come nearer our back Inhabitants.

£150 put into ye Gov^{rs} hands for support of Indians at Auckquick.

During the Spanish & French war the Indian Trade was very considerably enlarged by means of ye Shawnesse, Delawares & Six

Nation Indians, who, from the quick Encrease of ye English in y^r Colonies, quitted their old Places of Residence for want of Game or korn, & removed to Allegheny. They were greatly encouraged by ye Twightwees & other Nations inhabiting beyond ye Ohio, as they draw our Traders after them. Croghan & others had Stores on ye Lake Erie, all along ye Ohio from Bar, and other store houses on the Lake Erie, all along ye Miami River, & up & down all that fine country watered by ye Branches of ye Miamis, Sioto & Muskingham Rivers, & upon the Ohio from Bockaloons an Indian Town near its head, to below ye Mouth of the Miami River, an Extent of 500 miles, on one of the most beautiful Rivers in ye world, y^n they traded all along the Rivers.*

Great Quantities of Goods were vended in the towns of the Twightwees at their own pressing Instances. Several Nations, Twightwees, Picts, Tacons, Piak-kis-haws and Owendats, entered into an Intimated Friendship with the scattered Tribes of Shawenese, Delawares & Six Nation Indians, & pressing to enter into an alliance, they were on ye recommendation of ye Six Nations, Shawenese & Delawares, admitted in ye summer of 1748.

When the Indians perceived by the French Proceedings & Preparations that they not only contended for a sole & exclusive Trade, but for the Possession of the Country lying on ye borders of the Ohio, they gave us timely notice, entreated us to build Forts, continue our Trade, & make head against them, & to be expeditious & resolute. When they saw no fruits arising from their sev^l solicitations, & notices neither forces, nor workmen to help them to build Forts, they nevertheless repeated their applications, and offered to join us. We heard them patiently, continued to send unarmed Traders with great Quantities of valuable Goods wch fell from time to time into the hands of the French. The Traders were seized and carried Prisoners to Canada without the least struggle or opposition.

The Presents sent to Logs Town shew^d our wealth & good nature, but evidenc^d at ye same time the weakness of our measures, since in consequence of a free Consent given at that treaty by the Indians to build store houses on the Ohio, no other force was sent y^n about 30 half-starved, ordinary men, under a very improper Commander, Capt. Trent; who w^n about building a small, illconstruc^d house at the Mouth of the Monongealo. The Gov^t of Virginia sent Mr. Washington to summon ye French Commander on the River B***, & on his haughty answer, raised a few forces, expecting ye Province of Pennsylvania wou^d have either sent men, or given a large sum to inlist such as wou^d enter Volunteers, but found y^t instead of affording assistance, they fell into disputes wth their Govr, & seemed to espouse the French Claims to those Countries.

The Peace was concluded 7th 8br, 1748, at Aix-la-Chapelle, & in Novr Governor Hamilton arrived.

Care was taken to make ye new Govr acquainted with ye accession

* This part of the MS. much interlined and difficult to be read.

of the Twightwees & Owendats into ye English Alliance wth y^r good disposition towards ye English, and ye flourishing state of ye Indians Trade, & ye Great Interest his Maj^ty had wth numerous Nations of Indians beyond ye Ohio.

In short, we irritated the French, dispirited the Indian allies, & gave the Enemy by our weak and small Efforts such immense advantages as are beyond Conception.

Plan for the Defence of Cumberland Co., 1754.

A Plan for the Defence of the Frontier of Cumberland County from Phillip Davies to Shippensburgh.

Let one Company cover from Phillip Davies to Tomas Waddel's; And as John M'Dowell's mill is at The most important Pass, most exposed to Danger, has a Fort already made about it, and there provisions may be most easily had, for these Reasons let the Chief Quarters be there; let five men be Constantly at Phillip Davies's, William Marshall's, and Thomas Waddle's, which Shall be relieved every Day by the patrolling Guards; let Ten men be Sent early every morning from the Chief Quarters to Thos. Waddle's, and Ten return from thence back in the Evening. A likewise Ten men Sent from the Chief Quarters to the other Extremity daily, to go by William Marshal's to Philip Davies's and return the Same Way in the Afternoon. By this Plan The whole Bounds will be patrolled twice every Day, a Watch will be constantly kept at four most important Places, and there will be every Night fourty-five Men at ye Chief Quarters ready for any Exigence.

Another Company may cover as much more of The Frontier, beginning where the first Ends and reaching towards and back of Shippensburgh, by fixing a Chief Quarters in Some convenient Place about the Middle of Said Bounds, and from Thence patroling the Ground twice a Day, and keeping watches at ye most proper Places, as above; One of which watches may be constantly at M^r. Armstrong's, and another at a proper Place at ye other Extremity.

This Plan Supposes each of ye Companys to consist of 60 Men in all, as fewer cannot So patrol, keep Watch, and leave any Force together to answer Such Exigencies as may occur. These may be furnished by deducting 17 out of Each of ye four Forts back off our Frontier. This leaves 60 in each Fort, and makes up a new Company of 60 Men, and Eight to be added to Cap^n Peter's Company.

Indorsed—

A Plan for the Defence of the County of Cumberland.

* See ye Exports of Skins in ye years, 1747, 1748, 1749.

Statement Respecting J. Patten and the French, 1754.

Mr. J. Patten, an Indian Trader, of Philadelphia, who for more than Twenty Years carried on a Trade amongst the different Nations of Indians, some hundred Miles West of Philadelphia, says: That at the Commencement of the late French War, he went to trade as usual, with thirteen Horses laden with English Goods, all which, together with himself & sundry others, were seized & taken by some Frenchmen belonging to a French Fort upon the River Ohio, & from thence was transported from Fort to Fort to Quebec. & afterwards was carried three hundred Miles above, where he lived for a twelve Month among the Indians. (The River Ohio runs back of Philadelphia, Maryland & Virginia, & is supposed to empty itself itself into the Mississippi.) He says that the French have Forts within Twenty or Thirty Miles distance of each other, with a Command of Men from Ten to Twenty; That by Means of these Forts & the Lakes, they have a Communication open from Quebec to the Mississippi, he says that the French take the Squas & Papooses of the Indians in Alliance with them, into these Forts for Protection, whilst the Men go out to War; & there keep them until the Men return. By these Forts they comand an immense Firr Trade, & a fine open Campagne Country, & bid fair in a little Time to Seduce the Indians in Alliance with the English, into the French Interest, as the English do not afford the Same Protection to the Women & Children, while the Men are gone to War, as the French do. The Garrisons of the Particular Forts are Stationed for three Years, when they are relieved, & the Officer that behaves well in this Station is sure to be promoted.

Indorsed—
Patten's Information (from Gov[r] Shirley.)

Petition of Officers of Northumberland County against Connecticut Men.

To the honorable John Penn, Esq[r]., Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania, and counties of New Castle, Kent and Sussex, on Delaware.

The petition of the Sheriff, Coroner, and Magistrates of the County of Northumberland, in the said Province, most humbly Sheweth:

That your Petitioners, actuated by a sense of the duty which they owe to the public in general, have not been wanting in the utmost

* From Gov. Shirley.

exertion of their abilities towards enforcing the laws of this Province, and maintaining regularity & good order in their several Stations, yet sorry we are to inform your honor that our utmost endeavours are likely to fail of the desired effect, thro' the restless and ambitious designs and enterprizes of the Colony of Connecticut; the intruders from that Colony settled at Wioming are reinforced with fresh numbers, Officers, civil and military, are appointed not only among them but even among us by the Governor of Connecticut, as well in direct violation of our laws as for the express purpose of overturning the Jurisdiction of our Courts. Swarms of emissaries from that Colony crowd among our people, seducing the ignorant, frightening the timorous, and denouncing the utmost Vengeance against any who may be hardy enough to oppose them; It is with grief we own, that with all our diligence we have not been able to prevent their insiduous artifices from having some effect; hitherto, indeed, we have been able, tho' with difficulty, to support a proper appearance of lawfull Authority; but how can we, single and unsupported, Sustain the weight of a whole Colony which teems with people; a large detachment is now marching to Wioming. Five hundred of the troops of that Colony are apply'd for, and expected under the disengenuous artifice of being a guard against the Indians; we have such repeated & reiterated Accounts of their firm intentions to disposses the people settled under Pennsylvania, that to disbelieve it would be arrant incredulity; In fine, to such Situation are we already reduced, from the number of their adherents, Spies & Emissaries, as to be under the hard necessity of keeping constant guards, not only to prevent the destruction of our Jail, but for the Security of our houses & persons, all of which are violently threat'ned. In this critical & alarming Situation, we cannot help imploring the interposition and aids of Government, and that this Country, poor and but thinly inhabited, may not be abandoned & left a prey to a powerfull Colony.

And your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

WM. COOK, Sheriff.
JAMES MURRAY, Coroner.
WILLM. PLUNKET,
SAML. HUNTER,
BENJA^N. ALISON,
ROBT. MOODIE,
MICH. TROY,
ELLIS HUGHES,
WM. MACLAY.

Indorsed.—Petition to the Hon'ble Jno. Penn, Northumberland Cot^y, respecting the Wyoming settlers.

List of Indians, Jan'y, 1755.

List of Conestogoe Indians who were present at the Treaty in Lancaster.

Jo. Hays,
John,
Billy Sock,
Peter,
Billy Sam,
Will. James,
Young Peter,
Will. John,
George William,
Young Warrior,
Isaac,
Harry,
Jemmy Harris,
Billy Taylor,
Betty,
Sally,
Margaret,
Jemmy Sam, (a Child.)
Nancy,
Peggy,
Mary,
Young Billy,
Young Jo.

List of Indians belonging to the Conestogoe Indian Town who were absent from the Treaty.

Old Molly,
Old Peggy,
Peggy Tillehanzey,
Jemmy Wright,
Young Mary,
Young Margaret,
Wawanah, (or Big Road) a Boy.
Kawnonesah, (a Girl.)
Suzy, (a Girl.)
Sawateah, (a Girl.)
Tuahahuhn, (a Girl.)
Quahawey, (a Girl.)
Whawney, (a Girl.)
Kintasa, (a Girl.)
Hayenehs, (a Boy.)
Kaquaongush, (a Girl.)

Gov. Belcher to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Jan'y 10, 1755.

Sr,

At the Desire of the Bearer, Capt. Morke, I herewith send you Copy of a Letter from L. Govr. Delancey, which I recd by him this day, & he tells me, he intends to leave with me some things for His Majesty's Service & Interest, to be laid before the Council of this Province, at their meeting me the next Month, & as he is now bound to Phila, he tells me he intends to lay the same matters before your Honour, & the Governmt there; & I have assured him, if

he has any thing to offer, for His Majesty's Service & Honour, he will have your Countenance & Encouragement. I am,

Sr,

Your Honour's most
obedient & most humble
Servt.,

J. BELCHER.

Elizs. Town, (N. J.)
Jany. 10, 1755.

L. Govr. Morris.

Indorsed.—Govr. Belcher, with a Coppy of Gov. Delancey's letter to him, recommending Captn Morke.

COPY.—GOV. DELANCEY TO GOV. BELCHER, 1755.

New York, 8th Jany, 1755.

Sr,

I take the Liberty of recommending Capt. Morke to your Excellency's Favour, he came from England recommended by my Lord Halifax to Govr. Shirley, who recommended him to me, he has made some Stay in this Town, & has some things to lay before the several Governours on this Continent, that may be of Use to these Colonies, he is proceeding towards Virginia, & as I know his Intentions of waiting on your Excellency, I have sent a Packet under his Care. I am,

Sr,

Your Excellency's most
obedient and most humble
Servt.,

JAMES DE LANCEY.

Govr. Belcher.

Indorsed.—Copy, Govr. Delancey to Govr. Belcher.

Gov. Sharp to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Annapolis. January 13th, 1755.

Sir:

I could not help embracing the Opportunity by Captain Rutherford, of acknowledging the Receipt of your favour of the 17th Inst. I need not express to you how much I am concerned at the account you sent me of your Assemblys Obstinacy. I cannot but approve of your sending a Belt to the Six Nations in behalf of this Province, tho' for want of being before acquainted therewith, I have writ with Governor Dinwiddie to Mr. Delancy, desiring him to have a Belt delivered as from Us, in Case He should think proper to send any Message to the Six Nations. You will be kind enough to acquaint me at Scarroyady's Return with the Event of his Journey, & you will, I hope, excuse the Brevity of this & attribute it to my being just about to depart for the Camp, where I propose to tarry about a Month, if nothing extraordinary & unexpected requires my Return to Annapolis.

I am, with the greatest Regard,

Sir, your most humb. & obedt Servt,

HORo. SHARPE.

P. S. I should be glad to learn how Matters are at Venango.

Indorsed:

Govr Sharpe, by Capt. Rutherford approving my Giving a Belt for Maryland to Scarroyady.

Janr 13, 1755.

Gov. Morris to Isaac Norris, 1755.

Sir:

There are now in town twelve Indians of the Cherokee nation, who, you are sensible are now, & for a long time have been firmly attachd to the English Interest. These unfortnate people were taken Prisoners by the French Indians about two years ago, and have been confined in Canada, from whence they have made their escape, and are now returning to their own country. I observe that some of them were in a manner naked, and think it will be right in this Governmt to supply them with such clothing as may be necessary to keep them from the inclemency of the weather at this season, wch need not be much, and to send a messenger with them as far as John Harris's,* where they will be put into a road that they know. I therefore recomend this

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. VI., p. 276.

matter to you, and hope you will favor me with your answer by the Bearer, y^t I may give the necessary Directions to Mr. Weiser, who will act with the utmost frugality, and send his Son Sammy along wth them.

I am.

17th January, 1755.

Indorsed.

Governor's Lre to Isaac Norris, 17 Janry, 1755.

Reply of Isaac Norris to Gov. Morris, 1755.

May it please the Governor:

These Cherokee Indians were at my house in their way to Town, two nights, and behaved themselves very orderly. I am pleased with the opportunity of giving them some marks of Our regard for their Nation, and, as far as regards my self, acquiesce entirely with the Governors proposal of Supplying them with Such Clothing as may be necessary to keep them from the inclemency of the Weather at this Season, which need not be much, and Conducting them as far as John Harris's, to put them into a road they know. As Conrad Weiser is in Town, and will act with the utmost frugality, there can not be least doubt the Province will cheerfully defray the charge.

I am the Governors

Assured friend,

ISAAC NORRIS.

Jan^ry 17th, 1755.

Indorsed.

M^r. Isaac Norris to the Govr, 17 January, 1755.

Gov. to Isaac Norris, 1755.

Sir:

His Majesty having commanded me To furnish the officers of the troops he has destined for American service, with all necessarys for travelling by land, when his service required them to go from place to place, and observing by the newspaper that the House of Assembly have lodged money in the Hands of your self, and some other members, for that and other purposes, I think it proper to acquaint you That Coll^o Ellison and Coll^o Mercer, who lately arrived at Virginia, in one of his Majesty's Ships of war, are now in town and are going to Boston, upon his Majesties service, which requires the greatest dispatch. They are furnished with Duplicates of his

Majesties Orders & in virtue thereof have apply'd to me and expect to be supplyed agreeable thereto. Coll^{o} Mercer will return here, it being the place of his destination.

Philad^{a}, Jan^{ry} 24th, 1754.

Indorsed.

Jan^{ry} 24th, 1755. Df^{t} to Isaac Norris notifying the arrival of Col^{l} Ellison and Col^{l} Mercer and requiring they may be supplyed agreeable to his Majisty's Orders.

Delivered a true copy of the within letter to Isaac Norris, at his house near Germantown.

JOHN MORRIS.

Jan^{ry} 24th, 1755.

Capt. Wm. Polson to Joseph Armstrong, 1755.

Shippensburg, 25th Jan'ry, 1755.

Sir:

Agreeable to a Clause in a late Act past in this Province, for providing Provisions & other Necessarys for his Majesty's Troops that shall arrive or be rais'd in the Province, I am to inform you (as you are not only a Member of the General Assembly, but by them appointed a Commissioner,) that I have here 10 Recruits for the Expedition, & as I have Received Orders from his Excellency, Horatio Sharpless, Comm^{r}, for the time being, to repair to the Camp at Mount Pleasant. I expect you'll come To-morrow Morning to discharge the soldiers Quarters, & provide Provisions at proper stages for the soldiers on their March out of this County, wch is the Frontier of your Province.

I am,
S^{r},
Yours, &c.,

WM. POLSON.

To Mr. Jos. Armstrong,
one of the Commissioners
For Cumberland County.

Capt. Wm. Polson to Joseph Armstrong, 1755.

Shippensburg, 27th Jan'ry, 1755.

Sir:

Yours of this instt I received, & observe what you say was the resolve of your House, & the Commissioners sense of the Clause in Sr Thos Robinson's letter regarding the Troops rais'd in this Province, & tho' it does not become me as one of his Majestys Military officers, to Censure the Conduct of your house or the Commissioners by them appointed, I cannot help thinking it very difficult to understand your Intentions, when by your actions you pay no regard either to Royal Orders or the Express Words of your own Acts. I'm amaz'd that you as a Representative of your people, or Commissioner, pretend to Quote a paragraph of Sr Thos. Robinson's Letter; as a rule to screen you from the Support of my recruits when you, by a Message from your House, to his Honour the Governor, say that his Majesty neither has, or ought to have, any such Power as is Contain'd in Sr Thos. Robinson's letter. If I'm not mistaken, the words of your own Act in the disposale of ye £5,000 are; that it is to support such of his Majesty's Troops as shall arrive or be rais'd in the Province. This being the Case, I presume you did not expect Soldiers to be raised here as Provinciale Troops when you did not grant any supplys for that purpose, Therefore if you had any meaning in your resolve you certainly intended to support any of his Majesty's recruiting officers on that duty in your Province. I am here by a dependency on your resolves, depriv'd of the Power of Executing my Comm'r's orders & must ly here wth my Men at a great expence, till a remittance from another Government discharges our Quarters. The Consequences of such Delays not only your House, but your poor Constituents must answer to my Royal Master.

I am, Sr, Yours, &c.,

WM. POLSON.

To Joseph Armstrong.

Indorsed.

Copys of two letters to Joseph Armstrong, Commissioner in Cumberland County, of the 25th & 27th of Janry, 1755.

Joseph Armstrong to Capt. Polson, 1755.

27th January, 1755.

Sir:

As the Assembly of this Province, by a Resolve, granted a Sum of £5000 to purchase frish Provition for the King's troops at there arival, and Cariages, and othere Neceries, if they march by Land, and appointed me one of the Commissioners to lay out Part of that money, and Store up Provitions, have in Readiness for Such troops as Shall arive; the Assembly also Resolved that this Small Sum granted for the King's use Should be kept for their arival in this Province, or if they Should Come into one of the Neighbouring Provinces, then at the Next Sitting of the Assembly the Commissioners will have the mind of the house what to do with their Provitions. Sir, I am heartily Sory that I Cannot Comply with your Requist; I would with all Chearfulness, but it is not in my power to do it.

Sir, I Remain your most
Humble Servant,
JOSEPH ARMSTRONG.

P. S.—Sir there is a Clause in Sir Thomas Robinson's Letter to this government to provide for those that Should be Raised in this Province, it is the mind of the Commissioners, that that Clause Refers to those that are Raised by orders of this government only.

To Capt. Willi. Polson.
These.

Capt. Wm. Polson to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Shippensburg, 27th Jan'y, 1755.

Honourable Sir:

I intended to have done myself the Honour of waiting of you in person, but as my duty as an officer will not permitt me that happiness, I beg leave to inform your Honour, that by orders of his Excellency, Horatio Sharp, Esqr, I came into this County to recruit my Company, in which I have been pretty Successfull, & having received orders four days ago to repair to the Camp at Mount Pleasant, I apply'd to one of the Commissioners for this County to Discharge my Men's Quarters, & provide provisions at proper stages for the Soldiers on their March out of this Government, not doubting but such a Demand, as well as a Complyance with it, wou'd meet with your Honour's Approbation.

I have sent your Honour Coppys of my Letters to Mr. Armstrong on that Subject, also his Answer to me. And if my Zeal for my

Master's Service Carry'd me too far, I hope the Justness of my Cause will obtain my Pardon.

I am, Honourable Sir,

Your Honour's most dutiful

and most Obedient hum^e Servt.

WILL^M. POLSON.*

Gov. Morris to Sir Thos. Robinson, 1755.

Philad^a., Jan. 30, 1755.

Sir:

I did myself the honor to write you on the 24 ult. relating to the proceedings of the Assembly of this Province, duplicate of which is under this cover, as also Copy of what I said to them at the opening of the Sessions, and of the several messages that have pass'd between us since that time.

You will Observe by these papers that I have laid before them his Majesty's commands, signified by your several Letters of July 5th & Octob^r 26th, and Call'd upon them to grant the supplys expected by the Crown upon the present important occasion. That I have represented to them the danger to which these Colonys stand exposed by the encroachments of the French, and urged every motive that Could induce them to avoid dispute & act with vigor in the defence of their Country. But I am sorry to say, that instead of such a Conduct as might reasonably be expected from the representatives of a Province actually invaded by the French, They have industriously entered into controversy concerning the force of Royal & Proprietary Instructions, which they insist are not binding upon a Governor of this Province, and have taken the Liberty to represent the Issuing such as distructive of their Libertys and infractions of their charter. And because I refused to communicate to them all my Instruct^ns, and to disobey such as they might think wrong, they have made that an excuse for not providing for the necessary defence of the Province. They did, indeed, propose a Bill for putting £20,000 into my hands for the King's use, but upon such terms as I could not agree to consistant with my duty, & I had the honor to give you my particular reasons in my last.

I take the liberty to Observe, that Royal & Proprietary Instructions are by no means new things in this Government, and if they had been destructive of the Libertys of the people, they might have been complained of in a time of less danger. The raising such a dispute therefore at this time seems to have been done with no other

* See the preceding Letters.

design but to furnish a pretence for not acting as his Majesty's service and the safety of the country required.

On the 3d Instant the Assembly did, by a resolve without my Knowledge or Consent, empower a committee of their own members to borrow any sum not exceeding five thousand pounds upon the credit of the House, which they directed to be applyd to some of the uses recomended by your letter of Octor 26, in such manner as that Committee should think fit; upon which you will give me leave to say, that if a house of Assembly by their own Authority, without the Consent or Approbation of a Govr., can borrow and dispose of money as they think proper, they may hereafter use that Power in a manner inconsistant with the publick good & the Just dependence of this Province upon the Crown.

I am honoured with your several letters in favour of Sr John St. Clair & Mr. Pitcher, to both of whom I shall Afford my best Assistance, as I shall to every officer his Majesty has thought fit to employ upon the present occasion.

On the 10th Instant the Assembly Notified to me their intention to Adjourn themselves till May, and I sent them a message objecting to any Adjournment till they had granted the necessary supplys, and put the Province into a posture of defence, but they persisted in their resolution and adjourned to ye 12th of May next without doing any thing but what I have mentioned, and making a representation to his Majesty against Royal & Propy Instructions, as I am told, for I have not been favour'd with a sight of it.

I could with great ease have had a considerable number of men ready to have augmented the two regiments from Ireland, or to have made part of those to be raised in America, if the Assembly would have consented to supply money for that purpose, but as they would not, I must content myself with affording any assistance to the officers that shall be employed to raise men for those purposes.

I have the Honour to be, Sir,
Your Most Obedt &
Most Hum. Servt.

Directed.—Sent by Mr. Pitcher to be put on board the Gibraltar, Capt. Spry, at Virginia, Jany. 31.

Indorsed.—Dft. to Sr. Thos. Robinson, of Jany. 30, 1755.

Lucas Rous to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Old Coshehoppe, d. 21 Febr., 1755.

Vir Admodum Venerande!

Ad aures occulosve pervenerunt litteræ de Constitutione liberarum scholarum ad propagandam veram notitiam æterni Numinis. Gratulantur hoc de tam pio tamque salutari Instituto, omnes Cordati, qui preces suas ardentissime ad omnipotentem die nocteq's fusas secundum Psalm CII., 14—23, exauditas iam ex parte vident. Suosqve fasciculos ovantes ad portare cupiunt. Cumqve percepissemus, Te, Fautor estumatissime! in membrum quod vocant: the general Trustees of the Society, a Superioribus esse pronunciatum; qua de re haud dubitamas, quin petitum nostrum in cassum ibit: niminum, homines nostros, aliam partem Montium, quos the Blue Mountains appellitant, inhabitantes, adiuvare, or: to give them a Warrant for some Tract of Land to build a Lutheran Church and Schoolhous, quoniam inventus pene frequens ibi inuenitur. Sed auxilio hactenus destituti nec informatorem neque Ministrum Verbi Sustentare potuerunt, imo cum circumdati sint ab hostibus Cincendorfianis ac Indis, periculum est ne verus Domini Timor penibus extinguatur. Locus de origenda congregatione situs est viginti tribus circiter Milliaribus ab Bethlehem septentrionem versus, in Easton County, vicinis John Jung, a meridie; Peter Hofman ab occidente. Seniores huius Populi, qui mihi ex parte desiderium de propaganda inter se vera religione significarant sunt nominattim: Henrich Christman, Peter Kehler, Conrad Mercamp, et Jacob Sterner. Tu iam, Fautor estumatissime far, quæ Tibi belle videatter, ego vero, Te tutelæ Omnipotentis comendans, persevera.

Vir Admodum Venerande,

Tuus,

addictissimus,

LUCAS ROUS, V. D. M. ad

Old Goshehoppe, etc.

P. S.—Tese young man is my Bruder in low, named Bernhard Femling, leving over the Blue Mountins, in Easton County, by the same place were may be build the Church and Shoolhous.

Indorsed—

Lucas Rouse of Old Cowshoppen, 21 Febry, 1755.

Thomas Penn to Gov. Morris, 1755.

[Duplicate.]

Sir,

I intended by this Ship to have wrote very fully to you on every point of Business mentioned in your Letters, but about fourteen Days since I was attacked by a fit of the Gout, and render'd incapable to attend Business, til three or four Days ago, when I sat down to Mr. Peters's Letters, which has proved so troublesome and so tedious a work, that there is not now an hour's time left, but I think so much is said in his to every part of our business, that my referring you to his Letters which I have also wrote him will, in a very great degree answer the purpose. I shall, however, by Mesnard, who departs the middle of next Week, write fully to you; however, I can't delay to that time to tell you that we approve of your proceedings with the Assembly, and if you are to represent your Cases, I can assure you theirs will not be approved, for it is not believed here they ever intended to give a shilling, & so far are those here who must consider the Dispute from thinking you should have taken the Money on their Terms, that they think the Assembly should have given the Money without striking Bills on a distant fund for the sinking them, so that you need not be under any uneasiness for the event of the Dispute.

We much approve of the method you have taken in the Connecticut Affair, and make no doubt but you will be very vigilant in taking such measures with the Indians as may prevent a Settlement, or if any should come, that you will sieze at least some of them, and proceed against them according to Law; some of the most considerable we shall choose to deal with. I refer you to my next and remain with great truth,

Sir,

Your very affectionate Friend,

T. PENN.

London, Feby 21st, 1755.

Copy of Order of Commissioners for Borrowing Money, 1755.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners for Borrowing the sum of Five thousand Pounds, &c.

At the State House, Feb. 24th, 1755.

Present:

Joseph Trotter, Evan Morgan, Joseph Stretch, & Joseph Fox, James Pemberton, Benj. Franklin.

A Letter from the Governor to the Speaker being laid before the Board, requesting to know what Provisions this Province will supply

for the Troops intended for the Ohio; the same being taken into Consideration, it was agreed; That Directions be immediately sent to Messrs James Wright, Joseph Armstrong, and John Smith, to Purchase fourteen thousand Bushels of Wheat, and to get the same Ground & bolted according to the directions they shall receive from Thomas Walker, Esqr., and Packed in Casks ready to be delivered on the first advice from Governor Dinwiddie that the Brittish Troops are arriv'd; and that they engage a Sufficient Number of Waggons or other Carriages for transporting the same to the mouth of the Conegochig.

EVAN MORGAN,
JOS: FFOX,
JAMES PEMBERTON.

Having this Minute brought to me at Fair hill, I do agree to it, & put my name, Febry 24th, 1755. } ISAAC NORRIS.

Indorsed—

Coppy—Order of the Commissioners about flower.

THOMAS PENN TO GOV. MORRIS, 1755.

Sir,

By Captain Lyon I wrote you a short Letter, of which you have a coppy herewith, and shal now supply that defect, by acknowledging the receipt of your Letters from Madera, Latitude of Bermudas, and those of the 7th and 26th of October, 3d of November, one without date by Budden, and one last night of the 1st of Jan'y, by way of France, and returning answers to the several matters mentioned in them.

The accounts I have of your reception in Pennsylvania were as favourable as I expected, I am very sensible you must be fully engaged, and could not write any thing material so soon after your first arrival.

It cannot but be very disagreeable to find a people for whom my Family wish to do every thing in their power to make them considerable, seem to have nothing in view but to take every step they can to injure us, however, I consider there may arise some who will think more justly, and may act a better part, and that makes me the less uneasy.

We approve of your speeches and messages to the Assembly, which I have communicated to the Secretary of State, but have not been lately able to be with the Ministers, I believe they give satisfaction, and I cannot advise you to recede from what you have insisted upon, unless you have orders sent you to do it, as I have to

the last time I saw them, all the reason to think they were generally of opinion you should not. By what you write in your last Letter, I hope the dangerous situation the people were in will force the Assembly to a Bill for appropriating so much of the money to the king's use, as to make it not worth while to refuse it for the sake of the remainder, which I would not do for a few thousand pounds at this juncture, as soon as I can get abroad I shal be able to give you a better account of what is said upon the intended application to the king; but have only seen my Lord President and Sr Thomas Robinson since I was confined, if they comply with the sinking in five years, we are sensible there is no occasion to say any thing of our Instruction.

I cannot conceive how Mr. Charles procured a Coppy of our Instructions, Mr. Paris assures me no person but his old Clerk knew of them; that he might know the substance of that, for appropriating the money is possible, because I had mentioned it in conversation to my Lord Hallifax in particular, and he might at the board, from whence Mr. Charles may have got it. I have fully considered what you inform me our Friends propose in the passing another Bill for encrease of the paper currency, and can not think their Scheme propper or likely to succeed—in the first place, the Lords of Trade themselves do not think Pennsylvania accountable to them for the management of the domestick affairs of the Country, and have reported to the king, at my instance, that he has only reserved a power of repealing Laws that are inconsistent with the prerogative of the Crown, or the allegiance of the Proprietor and people, and therefore I cannot desire that he will object to the manner of appropriating the publick money, which is wholly left to us, and our assembly, should I do this, how can I object afterwards to any other regulations a Board of Trade may have inclinations to make, however contrary to the powers granted to us, this ought to be well considered, and I think it much better to insert an appropriating clause, whenever a paper money Bill is offered, & make a fair tryal, whether the desire in the people to have the money, will not oblige the Members of Assembly to accept it on those Terms, as the people will see we cannot possibly touch a shilling of it without the consent of their Representatives; when such a Bill is to be considered, it should be known that you are willing to comply with the desire of the people, which may, coinciding with their necessity, or rather convenience, make them uneasy to be disappointed in their expectation by the Assembly; as to the king's instructions for the suspending clause you will do in that as you think safe for yourself, most certainly the complying with that Instruction must be agreeable to those that contrived it, there is one article that I find is objected to in the Jersey Bill now before the Board of Trade, which is the making the money a lawfull Tender in all payments, this I take to be necessary, when it is intended as a setled currency, and

shal therefore make use of all the means in my power to carry that point.

I am sorry to hear our Friends let fall such things as you mention, as consequences attending the dispute about the appropriation of the money, that they may make the people more dilatory in paying some of our demands is probable, but how any persons can succeed in associating to refuse paying rents, that are so clearly due, they must be cast on tryal, is to me not at all probable, besides as you will observe, you may insert the clause without mentioning any instruction at all, on the propriety of the thing, and the obstinate refusal of the Assembly to provide for the publick service, indeed some of the money has been applyed to unnecessary purposes.

I make no doubt of your using your utmost endeavours to prevent any such schemes from taking place, as may prevent us from receiving our Rents, and on the contrary will assist our Receiver, as much as possible in the execution of his offiee.

With regard to the purchase, and intended settlement of the people of Connecticut, I think you have taken the most propper steps to prevent their design, and have nothing to give in charge on that head, but hope if they should venture you will bring down some of their principal people to Philadelphia, to answer for their unjust intrusion on our rights. We desire you will give us the most timely intelligence how they act, we have now under consideration an application to the king to desire orders to prevent a settlement 'til the Case shal be heard.

We are very well pleased with the proceedings of the Lower County Assembly, and wish you had given an account of it to Sir Thomas Robinson, I have mentioned it to all I have seen, but desire to know What you have done with the money, that I may shew them the service that it has been of. I have also told them the number of Indians you have supported, but they very justly say it is a trifle to what ought to have been done, and must make people here think the Inhabitants of the Colonys do not conceive the Settlements made by the French so injurious as some would make them believe here.

I believe you judge right of Mr. Francis's intentions, and find by Mr. Peters's last Letter that he has resigned his office of Attorney General, upon Peters's telling him if he resigned he had orders not to apply to him, what I intended by that was, unless he would take the Salary we allow, we would not give him the trouble of consulting on our affairs, and we would not give him the Salary unless he holds the office, as we will have one called our Attorney General, who should do all the publick business. If Mr. Francis acts a bad part, he must reduce me very low before he gets any place.

I am concerned to find Collonel's Washington's conduct so imprudent, and my old Friend Captain Clark act so bad a part; the Company was sold to another, while he was in Virginia, in pursuance of

a former agreement, so that it was not in my power to serve your nephew, which you may be sure I would gladly have done.

The wretched condition of the Independent Companys of New York has been long known here, and I am sorry no remedy is applyed to it, Captain Hardy who I am told is a man of Fortune and resolution, is appointed to that Government, and goes over as soon as possible, I am told he is not to have one of them, nor any interest to incline him to favour the officers in not keeping them full, the behaviour of the officer you mention is so scandalous, that I admire the present Governor suffers it.

I heartily wish measures may be taken to strengthen the Fort at Oswego, to which place as you will observe a Company might and should be sent, Mr. Delancey says much about it, and certainly might have obliged the Officers to recruit the Companys, and sent a considerable number to that place to intercept the Convoys. The Trade you mention with the French ought certainly to be prohibited, if we are to continue long on the same Terms we at present are.

I think Mr. Delancey runs a great risque of being called to account for making a Treaty of neutrality for the Government of New York only with the Conawago Indians; and I have so represented it, but on looking over the extract of Mr. Shirly's Letter, I find Mr. Delancey denys it, and shal hope to have an account from you how this matter stands.

I am very much pleased to hear your account from Shippensburgh proved a false alarm. I have before told you in general that we approved of your speeches and messages to the Assembly, we think you have said all that was propper and necessary to engage them to do their duty, I think you judged right in omitting to make the appropriating clause a part of the amendment, as you were so strongly advised to drop it on this occasion, tho' every person here was prepared for it considering it would not be necessary if they would appropriate the whole, but I think you will be a little put to it, to support your dropping the king's instruction about the suspending clause, which is continued by Sir Dudly Riders opinion, and observing the Act of Parliament for five years passed only for the Governments of New England, and I have been told that if an Act is passed with a suspending clause the king will be sure of the money, by which I find some of opinion it should be complyed with. This I hint to you on your own account, and now expect the representation from the Assembly, which I shall be glad to see, as it will give me an opportunity of shewing their conduct, and that there is a real disagreement between you, tho' some very wise people have thought it possible this difference may be concerted to save the money, I do not think this is believed by any persons of consequence, but was willing to hint it to you, the clause you added in your messages to the Assembly was very propper.

Your message of the 17th of December was not sent, the rest I had coppyed and sent immediately with your Letter to Sir Thomas

Robinson, the examination of the Deserter enclosed in your last with the Letter and printed Messages I sent the moment I received it, the examination is I think difficult to be credited, the number of men much too great for the number of Ships, and to be drafted out of the Grenadiers only, besides the coming with exactly the same number to the Ohio seems improbable, for if so large a body had been sent from France, I think some would have been left to reinforce their Settlement in Nova Scotia, however, I delivered the paper you sent to the Secretary of State, who will make the propper use of it.

We are very diligent in getting a Fleet ready of large Ships, and have made a promotion of four Admirals, so that we shal be ready to watch the motions of the French, who it is said have thirty Men of War at Brest, but they are very carefull not to let any strangers come into the Town, so that we do not know what they are doing with any exactness.

I hear the people of New England and Connecticut, are preparing for some expedition which I suppose must be Crown point, that Mr. Shirley and Sr Wm. Pepperel will very soon compleat their Regiments. I desire you will inform me whether the officers have raised any men in Pennsylvania, and if you send any from the Lower Countys tho' indeed they must be very few, the sending men would be the most acceptable service.

We are very well pleased with your having communicated to the Assembly our Instruction relating to the defence of the Province, and the manner in which you did it. I think it was our duty to do it at this juncture, and as they wanted to know our Instructions, a very propper one to begin with, I am very easy about any determination that will be made here on that point, no one making any doubt of the propriety of our giving them to our Governors, but they may possibly give you a good deal of trouble, for these people go further than David Lloyd, who represented against an Instruction which made the Council a party in the passing of Laws, because of the matter contained in it.

I had some of the pamphlets sent me this day, and think with regard to the Quakers and Assembly what is said is propper enough, but I think a representation to the king, or some of these printed to give away to leading men would have been better, than to publish them to the world, and cannot have any good effect; the appealing to a Parliament is no compliment to an administration, and even therefore when they agree so well as at this time, will not be found a proper manner of applying to get the business done, however they will soon find whether it will answer their purpose. I have now again mentioned the impossibility of getting any thing done for the defence of the Country, while people are allowed to sit in the House that scruple to bear arms, but there is very little said to it, from whence I judge it will be difficult to bring about a change, but if such a thing was proposed in a representation from People of

the Country, some answer would be given to it. I think the language of the pamphlet too violent, however, I shall hear what others say of any consequence, and then write you further.

I told you the person mentioned above had seen your last Letter to me, when you say the Assembly, or some of the members, say they had rather the French should conquer them than that they should give up their priviledges to their proprietors; after which telling him the Assembly intended to represent against you to the king, he asked me whether to the King of England, or the King of France. I find he took much notice of the expression, as indeed he well might, he took a coppy of the latter part of your Letter, probably on account of your proposal for guarding the mountains, which is a matter of great importance.

I shall expect to hear soon from you that your Assembly is adjourned or have shortned the time of the Bill; your letter by way of Ireland is not arrived, nor that to Sir Thomas Robinson. I return you Lady Julianas and my thanks for your congratulations on the birth of my son, and remain

Sir,

Your very affectionate Friend,

THO. PENN.

London, February 26, 1755.

I return you my thanks for your intended present to my Greenhouse.

Indorsed.—Mr. Penn.

Gen. Braddock to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Sir:

As the Pacquet to Governor Shirley, which accompanies this, is of the utmost Importance to His Majestys Service, which, as well as the Welfare of the Colonies, may be greatly affected by the Delay of it. I beg of you to forward it with all imaginable Expedition, by a fresh Express, to Governor Shirley, and to use the same Dispatch in forwarding his answer upon the Return of the Express to me.

I am, Sir,

Your most Humble &

most obedt Servant,

E. BRADDOCK.

Williamsburg, Febry 28, 1755.

Govr Morris.

I beg you would not keep the Express above an Hour.

Indorsed.

Gen. Braddock's Letter, 28 Febry, 1755.

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. VI., p. 305.

Conrad Weiser to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Honoured Sir:

I must Inform you that I have ben visited this winter by a good number of Indians, Chiefly of those that Came a way last year from Ohio, because of the invasion of the French, whom they hate and will not live in their neighborhood; the first Company that Came Consisted in 19 Persons, all of the Six Nation Indians, one Jonathan Cayienquily-quoah, at their head, they arrived on the 27 & 28 of January last; the Second Company that Came Consisted Chiefly in Shawanos, 12 nnmber, arrived on the 20th of this same month, and went off all together on the 26 and 27 of this Instant; they jointly Intent to make a town next Spring on Westrn Branch of Susquehana, Comonly Called Otsinackson, at a place Called Otstuagy or French town, about 40 miles above Shamockin, and they gave me the inclosed Streng of Wampum, to send it to Philadelphia, with a Short Speech to the following purport: "Brother, the "Governor of Pensilvania: We, your Brethren, have ben obliged "to Come away from Ohio, because we would not live so nigh the "French, but rather nigh our Brethren, the English, in this Criti-"cal times, but we deprived ourselves by that means of a good "hunting ground and our little Cornfields. We intent to Build a "town at Otstuagy, on Otsinackson River, and pray that you will "be so good, Considering our poverty, as to send some of your In-"dustrious people up next Spring to fence in a Smal piece of "ground for a Cornfield for us, and we will thankfully acknowledge "your favours. Jonathan Cayienquilyquoah, the Speaker, gave a "Streng of Wampum." I received the Streng of Wampum, and promised to send it to the Governor of Pensilvania by the first safe opportunity, and transmit his answer to them according to direction. Before these Indians left me they made me a present of some Skines, to the value of about four pounds ten shillings, as a satifaction for the Expence & trouble I have ben at during their stay. I received it and thanked them, but I must bring in an account against the province next August, and hope your Honour, after perusing it, will recomend it to the house of the General Assembly, for better Satisfaction.

I take this opportunity of Informing your Honour, that when Tachnechdorus, the Chief of Shamockin, of the Cayiuker nation, was down here in the beginning of the winter, he told me that the Indians about Shomokin & Otsinakson, had ben Informed that a Lot of people from New England had formed themselves into a Body to Setle the lands on Susquehana, and Especially Seahautowano, (Wyoming) and that against the advice of their Superiors, and asked me whether it was true what they had heard. I told him it was true as to their Intentions, (to Setle that land) but whether with or without the advise of their Supperiors I Could not tell, but that I was

persuaded by some letters I saw last fall in Philadelphia, It was against the advise of the Supperiors of that Country. The said Chief then desired to make it known, "that whosoever of the white "should venture to Setle any land on Wyomock or thereabout, be-"longing hitherto to the Indians, will have his Creatures killed first, "and then If they did not desist they them self would be Killed, "without distinction, let the Consequence be what it would." I found he had Intelligence from the Indians up the river, that some of the New England people had ben there Spying the lands. I found this a difficult matter, and was no ways inclined to make it known to keep off trouble from myself, but the last visitors Insinuated the same thing, so I resolved to acquaint your Honour with it who is best able to judge, what must be done to prevent Bloodshet among us by the Indians, who would certainly, (If they should do such a thing, as I fear that they will) out of a guilty Conscience, Submit themselves to the protection of the French, the Consequence of that would be very diagreeable to the English in General in this and neighbouring Colony. I have nothing else to trouble your Honour with at present, but with a great deal of pleasure subscribe me self,

Honoured Sir,

your most obedient & humble Servant,

*

Heidleberg, in the County of Bercks,
March the first, 1755.

Indorsed.

Conrad Weiser, March 1st, 1755.

To the Honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esquire, Governor of Pensilvania, & liv in Philadelphia.

Gov. Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Boston, March 3d, 1755.

Sir:

Mr. Quincy, whom with Mr. Pownall, I have appointed a Commissioner on behalf of this Governmt, upon the present occasion, wch I have explained to you in my Letter by the last Post, will have the honour to wait upon you with this.

I shall be obliged to you for any Civilities you shall be pleas'd to shew him, and your advice to him for the successfull discharge of his Commission.

I refer your Honour to him for a particular acct of all the affairs

* Autograph cut out.

in motion here, and detain the Post, whilst I subscribe my self with the Greatest Truth and Esteem,

Dear Sir,
Your most Obedient and
faithful Humble Servt,

W. SHIRLEY.

Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr.

Indorsed.

Govr Shirley. March 3^d, 1745.

Gov. Morris to Gov. Belcher, 1755.

Philad^a, March 4th, 1755.

Sir:

Yesterday's Post from Maryland brought me a letter from Capt Rutherford, of the 26th of Feb^ry, with the agreeable news of Genl Braddock's arrival in Virginia; an Express from the Genl overtook Sr John St Clair at Fredericksburgh on his way to the Camp, upon which he wrote to Gov. Sharpe, and immediately returned to Williamsburgh. I congratulate your Excellency upon this good news, which I could not let this post go without Informing you of.

I hope your Assembly will, upon this occasion, behave as becomes the true friends of this Country, and set a Good Example to their Western Neighbours, who I have summoned to meet on the 17th Instant.

I beg my Compliments to Mrs. Belcher, and am

Your Excellency's
most obed^t & most
Humble Servt.

Gov. Morris to Gov. Delancey, 1755.

Sir:

I am honour'd with yours by the post, with the Act to restrain the sending provisions to Cape Breton, and have a letter from Govr Shirley with an act of the same kind, pass'd in his province. I must think with you, that this is a very proper measure, and wish it had been taken much sooner, for I am told there were, last summer, no less than forty English vessels at one time in the harbour of Louisburg, that had Carry'd provisions there. The great supply, I am afraid, will last them all the next summer, and enable them to mentain an Army on the back of us, which they could not otherwise

have done. I shall do my utmost endeavour to have a law pass'd to prevent that supply for the future, and for that and other purposes have call'd the Assembly to meet on the 17th instant, when I shall recomend this measure to them, and hope they will have so much regard for the safety of the Colonys as to come into it immediately, and follow the Example set by the Assembly of your province, and grant the necessary supplys.

By letter from Maryland, of the 26th of Feb^ry, I am informed of the arrival of Genl Braddock in Virginia. Sr John St Clair was at Fredericksburgh, in his way to the Camp, when an express from General Braddock overtook him, upon which he wrote to Gov. Sharpe & immediately returned to Williamsburgh; there are no particulars in Sr John's Letter as to the arrival of the train or forces, but Gov. Sharpe thinks they are both arrived, from his manner of writing of the disposal of the forces in quarters. I heartily congratulate you on this event, which I look upon as the fore runner of a War, the seat of which will be chiefly in America.

I shall do myself the Honour to write you in a day or two upon a Subject in which this Province is Principally concern'd, and in the mean time beg Leave to return you my thanks for your kind Indulgence to my Nephew, who has by that means been so fortunate as to obtain a Company in Govr Shirley's regiment, which he may Possibly in the Course of this Expedition, have an opportunity of Changing for one in an older Corps.

I am, S^r, &c.

Philad^a, March 4th, 1755.

Gov. Morris to Gov. Shirley, 1755.

Philad^a, March 4th, 1755.

Dear Sir:

I take this opportunity to return your Excellency my hearty thanks for promoting my nephew to a Company in your regiment, in the Gentele manner in wch you have done it, which I do assure you lays me under a lasting obligation, and I hope his conduct will be such as to merit the continuance of that good opinion you are pleased to Honour him with; I had indeed such a dependance upon your friendship, that I expected you would have served him with Sr William, but did not entertain hopes of your taking him into your own regiment, which is a situation I am much more pleased he should be in, as he will thereby have an opportunity by a good conduct of recomending himself to your countenance & future favour. He is now at New York, where I expect, by the help of his friends, he has already got nigh thirty men; I have sent for him here, and shall direct him into the county and towns, where he will soon get a number of men, as all the officers of this government shall assist him,

and I make no doubt of his haveing enough in three weeks or a month, after his arrivel here, to complete your regiment, tho' it should require a greater number than you mentioned; but as you will have advice by every post, either from him, your son, or me, of their progress, you can at any time give them orders to stop.

I understood from Coll° Mercer that part of Sr William's regiment was to be quartered here; if so, would it not save expence and trouble both to you & him to change some men, that is, for you to give him so many men here or at New York, for an equal number at Boston. Jack writes you by this post, and in a day or two his third imbarcation, consisting of fifty-four men, will sail from hence, which makes nigh two hundred from this place, and if he continues in this city, while Staats is recruiting in the Countys, it will greatly forward the service—and here give me leave to do my friend Jack a piece of Justice by saying, that no officer ever managed with more prudence or good sence than he has done upon this service; he has kept his men in Great order, avoiding all disputes with the people, quakers, Magistrates, and others; has diligently attended to the king's business, and in the course of it has gained the Love and esteem of every man of consequence in this place, who all endeavoured to serve him.

The little assistance he has had from me it was a pleasure to afford, and my friendship for you and him entitled him to much more. I mean to give the two Cap^ts of your appointm^t the merit of raising a great number of men, & shall therefore spare no pains in this affair, which will not only reflect Honour on you for the choice, but may be usefull to them; it may not therefore be amiss to settle matters wth Sr Willm as to the rate p^r man for such as Staats & Jack may raise more than you want.

I have a letter from Maryland, informing me of Genl Braddock's Arrival in Virginia. Sr John St Clair was at Fredericksburgh, in his way to the Camp, when an express from the Genl overtook him, upon which he wrote to Gov. Sharpe, informing him of the Gen^ls arrival, and immediately returned to Williamsburgh, and I have it from Capt Rutherford, who was then at Annapolis with Gov. Sharpe. I heartily Congratulate you on this event, which I think must bring matters to a short Issue between the two Crowns, and in my opinion it will end in a war, the seat of which must be chiefly in America.

I have yours, with the act to prevent the supplying the French with Provisions, and shall endeavour to obtain one of the like nature here, but our people are of such a temper, that little good is to be expected from them. However, I have called them to meet on the 17th Instant, & shall endeavour to rouse them to a sense of their duty & danger.

I hope soon to hear from you as to your plan of operations for the insuing season, and you may assure yourself that whatever assistance a governor can afford, who has no money at his disposall and an unreasonable Assembly to deal with, that will neither defend themselves nor assist their neighbours, shall not be wanted to further

your schemes, which I am sure are not only well laid, but are calculated to promote the Honour & interest of the nation, and the particular benefit of these Countrys. I beg my Compliments to Miss Shirley, and am,

Dr Sir.

P. S.—Inclosed you have the resolutions of the House of Commons relating to the Expence of Genl Braddock's Expedition.

Indorsed.—Dft. to Govr Shirley.
Answer to No. 4.

Gov. De Lancey to Gov. Morris, 1755.

New York, 4th of March, 1755.

Sir:

I some time ago gave orders to the Commanding Officer at Albany, & to the Magistrates of that city, in case any French Men came thither, to put them under a civil confinement, to take their examinations & transmit them to me, accordingly I received a letter from the Mayor and Recorder of Albany, acquainting me that they had confined a French man, who says he left Montreal the 14 January, having killed a man in duel: he gives an account that in August last three men of war arrived at Quebec, two 80 guns & one of 50 or 60; that one of the former was lost in the harbour, & the other in going down the River St Lawrence; that these ships brought over about 1000 regular troops, part of which went up to Montreal, & the rest remained at Quebec; that the Governor of Montreal is dead, & the General was daily expected when he left it; that all the Canadians who had been at the Ohio last summer returned in the fall to Montreal, except the regular troops left in Garrison. Their number, he says, he knows not; that in the Spring there were 800 Men going to the Ohio; that the people of Canada are afraid they shall be driven Hence. This Man came from France last July, is a native of Bourdeaux, and pretends to be related to a great Minister of France; his Name has not been sent to me. I shall order him hither, as soon as the season will permit, and if he adds any thing material to this account, I will send it.

I am,
Sir,
Your most obedient &
most humble Servant,
JAMES DE LANCEY.

Gov. Morris.

Indorsed.
March 4, 1755. Gov'r Delancy. Rec'd Mar. 7th.

Deposition Wm. Morris, &c., 1755.

The Depositions of William Morris and William Green, both of Kent County, on Delaware, being Sworn on the holy Evangelists of Almighty God, Deposeth & Saith that on the fifth Day of this Instant these Deponents were at the House of James Anderson, and that a Certain Anderton Brown, under Sheriff to Daniel Sullivant, high Sheriff of Dorset Co'ty, in the Province of Maryland, Came to the House of the afs^d James Anderson in Company with a Certain Edward White, who, both in a violent manner Seized the afs^d Anderson and threatened to tye him, and made use of their endeavours to do it, but that these Deponents Interferred and resqued the afs^d Anderson out of the hands of the afs^d under Sheriff, and his assistant, Edward White; That the said White Drew out along Cattle Knife and said that if any Son of a Bitch there (as these Deponents apprehended to be intended for them) dared to lay hands on him, that he would give them that, (the Knife meaning); But that these Deponents, likewise using Violence, did Resque the afs^d Anderson from the afs^d under Sheriff and his assistant, Edward White; That William Morris, one of these Deponents, at the time the afs^d under Sheriff and White were indeavouring to tye Anderson, he told him, the said under Sheriff, that he had better desist untill he saw a letter, then in the House of said Anderson, from Samuel Johns to Daniel Sullivant, high Sheriff of Dorsett Co'ty, in the Province of Maryland, and on reading the said Letter in the House of the said Anderson they forbore making use of any further Violence, but went away making use of Threatening Language to come again to take away by force the afs^d Anderson; And these Deponents further Saith, that to their knowledge, the Land whereon the afs^d Anderson now lives and where he hath lived for about three years past, was surveyed by William Kellor, Deputy Surveyor of Kent Co'ty, on Delaware, and that the said Land was allways held and deemed to be within the Limits of the County afs^d; And further these Deponents Saith not.

WILLIAM MORRIS,
WILLIAM GREEN.

Taken in Kent County, on Delaware, the fifteenth day of March, 1755, and Sworn to by the within mentioned Deponents, before me, the Subscriber, one of his Majesties Justice of said County.

SAMUEL JOHNS.

Indorsed:

15 March, 1755. The Depositions of Wm. Morris & Wm. Green.

Sent up by Justice Johns, in support of James Anderson's Complaint, set forth in Letter to Govr Sharpe, wch was delivered to him at New York, & he promised to make the proper Examination & give Relief.

Deposition James Anderson, 1755.

March 15, 1755.

The Deposition of James Anderson of Kent Co'ty, on Delaware, aged Thirty Six years or thereabouts being Sworn on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God deposeth and Saith, that on the Nineteenth day of February, last past, he, this deponent being at Work, a Certain Anderton Brown, an under Sheriff to a Certain Daniel Sullivant, High Sherriff of Do'set County in the Province of Maryland, Came to this Deponents and made a demand of a Levy from him, to which this Deponent answerd that he was Surprised at it, alledging that his Land was taken up by Virtue of Warrant from the Land office at Philadelphia, and the same Survey'd and a return made of the Same, and that this Deponent further added, that he had lived on the said Land Three years and that he had paid Two Levies to Thomas Clark, Esqr, Collector of Muspelion Hundred in Kent County, afs^d, Notwithstanding which this Deponent saith that the afs^d under Sheriff, paying no regard to what he said, but with Violence seiz'd, and attempted to tye this Deponent and threaten'd to Carry him to Goal, But that this Deponent made his escape and went immediately to Samuel Johns to make his Complaint, who wrote a Letter to the afs^d high Sheriff, in order to prevent any further Violent usage; but that this deponent neglected to send the said Letter to the Afs^d high Sheriff untill the afs^d under Sheriff came again to his House, and in a Violent manner Seiz'd him and Swore that he would tye him, and also drew along Cuttoe Knife and made use of many threats. But by the assistance of some of this Deponent's Neighbours who happened to be at his House, at the last time of the afs^d under Sheriffs being their, who resque'd him out of the hands of the afs^d under Sheriff, and one Edward White who was an assistant to the under Sheriff as afs^d, and further this Deponent Saith not.

his
JAMES ⋈ ANDERSON.
mark.

Taken in Kent County on Delaware, the fifteenth day of March, 1755, and sworn to by the above Deponent, before me the Subscriber, one of his Majestie's Justices of the said County.

Samuel Johns.

Indorsed.

Sent up by Justice Johns.

Thomas Walker to Gov'r. Morris, 1755.

Fort Cumberland, March ye 7th, 1755.

Honoured Sir,

I waited on Mr. James Wright and John Smith on my way here. They both expressed the Greatest desire of Complying with the Instructions sent them by the Honourable Isaac Norris, and the other Commissioners in Philadelphia. I could not wait on Mr. Armstrong, without great loss of time, which occationed me to write to him only.

I dont doubt but your Honour has had the agreeable news of the arrival of the English Forces, which will make the Greatest dispatch necessary in the Gentlemen who are to purchase the Wheat. Just now a Party men, commanded by Mr. Soumain Brought Joseph Nelson to the Camp with two other men, & one Woman, who the Men had by force, taken from her Father's House, one man of Capt. Rutherford's was shot through the arm. I am

your Honours
Most Humble Servant
in Hast,
THOMAS WALKER.

Directed.

To the Hon'b^le Robert Hunter Morris, Governor of Pensilvania.

Indorsed,

Thomas Walker to the Governor, 7 March, 1755.

Gov'r. Morris to Gov'r. De Lancey, 1755.

Sir,

I this minute received by express from Genl. Braddock, the several packets herewith, and forward them to you by a fresh Messenger agreeable to his request, and you will please send on those for the Eastern governments in the same manner.

I had by the post, the favour of yours of ye 4th Instant, concerning the French man taken at Albany, who notwithstanding any thing he says may be a spy, you therefore Judged very right in ordering him to New York, where he will be much more secure, & from whence he may be prevented from sending any intelligence.

I am,
Sr,
Your most obed^t,

March 9th, 1755.

Indorsed.

Dft to Govr. Delancey, with Genl. Braddock's packets to the Northern governments. March 9, 1755.

Gov. Morris to Gov. Shirley, 1755.

Dear Sir,

I have only time by this express which I send to New York with the public letters for yourself and the other Governors, to acknowledge the receipt of yours of ye 24 ult°,* which I shall more fully consider than I have yet Had time to do. I have appointed our Assembly to meet on the 17th Instant and heartily wish they may be so much altered, as to have the good of their Country at heart, and that they may come cheerfully into what you propose, but tho' I shall spare no pains to influence them to do so, yet can I not form to myself any hopes of success from men that seem lost to all sence of duty to their country. However as there is no Answering for futurity, we must wait the event.

I am,

Dr Sir,

Philada, March
9th, 1755.

Govr. Shirley.

Indorsed.

D'ft to Govr. Shirley, acknowledging the receipt of his plan.
Answer to No. 6.

Gov. Dinwiddie to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Virg'a. Williamsburg, Mar. 10th, 1755.

Sir:

Your Favour of the 26th Ult°., I received Yesterday. I am very glad You prevailed with Your Committee for the Flour of 14,000 bush^s. of Wheat, to be delivered at Conogacheek; this is a very seasonable supply, as that Quantity, with what I have purchased, I hope will answer the Bread kind; & I hope I have salt Provisions sufficient; but must entreat You to direct the delivery of the Flour with all imaginable expedition; as the Transports are mostly arrived, I hope the General will take the Field soon, & I would gladly hope, that no Delay should be on Account of Provisions.

I hope you will see it necessary to call ye Assembly immediately, now the Forces from Britain are arrived, to endeavour with them, to raise a considerable Sum of Money; for if it please God give the General Success in taking the Fort on the Ohio, it will be necessary, that a Garrison of 250 Men be left in it, (at the Charge of the

*Referred to, Colon. Rec. Vol. VI, 305.

different Colonies,) not to prevent his further Designs, & this Charge, I think, shou'd be bore by the Colonies, otherway, his taking the Fort, & leaving it without a Garison, will encourage the French next year to retake it, & in course, keep the Colonies in continual War; whereas, strengthens. ourselves on the Ohio, as above, I am in hopes, may prevent any further Attempts from the French, & protect our Frontiers. And as a great deal of Money will be wanted for that Service, I have called our Assembly to meet the first of May, in hopes to prevail with them for a further supply, for 100,000 now, will be of more service than a Million some years hence.

The General goes for Alexandria the Beginning of next Week, & expects Govr. Shirley to meet him at Annapolis, & I propose to wait upon him to that Place.

I remain,

With very great Respect,

Sir,

Your most obed^t and

h^ble Servt,

ROBT. DINWIDDIE.

Gov. Belcher to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Sir:

I thank you for the early Account, (of 4th Inst^t.) of the Arrival of General Bradock; on which happy Occasion, I heartily join my Joy to your Honour's, & I doubt not, to that of all these Provinces.

Notwithstanding, I lately calld the Assembly of this Province, & press'd them again to their Duty to the King, in making a proper Grant of a Sum of Money towards the common Defence of the King's Colonies here, yet they wou'd do nothing, taking for their Example, the bad one given them by your Assembly, & that of Maryland; & yet I intend they shall meet me again the middle of the next Month, altho' I have but lean Hopes of their then doing better, unless they shou'd have an Answer by that time, to a Certain Petition, they have sent the King, for Leave of Paper Currency.

I am, Sir,

Your Honour's

Most obedient, &

Most humble Servt.,

J. BELCHER.

Eliz'a Town, (N. J.,)
March 10, 1755.

L. Gov. Morris.

Gov. De Lancey to Gov. Morris, 1755.

New York, 11 March, 1755.

Sir:

Your express brought me General Braddock's dispatches for Mr. Shirley this evening, which I have forwarded to him by a diligent fellow, I have not detained yours longer than to write the few short letters which are inclosed, you will be pleased to send them by any opportunity that offers.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient,
& most humble
Servant,
JAMES DE LANCEY.

Governor Morris.

Gov. Morris to Gov. Dinwiddie, 1755.

Philadelphia, 12 Mar., 1755.

Sir:

Yours of the 28 February, was delivered me wth General Braddock's Letters, by the Express, for which, I am much obligd to you. That part of it relating to the flower was fully answerd in mine to you, by Sr John St Cleare Express, which you will have receivd before this comes to hand. Your sentiments respecting the Assembly of this Province are pert, but I hope General Braddock's Letter to me, wch I shall lay before them, wil make a Proper Impression, and induce them to alter their conduct, especially as it is so well supported by one from Lord Halifax, wch came by ye Genl.

I sent the Letters to the Northern Governmts on, by a fresh Express, and shall forward the answers with all possible Expedition as soon as I receive them.

I detaind your Express, that he might carry the Coppys of several Letters receivd from Govr Shirley, giving an Account of the intended Expedition concerted by the Governments of New England, wch will be communicated to you by the General, and to them I refer you, and am, with Very Great Respect,

Sir,
Your most obedient,
Humble Servt,
ROBT. H. MORRIS.

Gov. Morris to Committee of Assembly, 1755.

To the Committee of Assembly empowered to borrow and dispose of Five Thousand Pounds, &c.

Gentlemen:

Five Soldiers belonging to the Virginia Regiment, commanded by General Sharpe, viz.: Robert Sudderton, Bryan Doul, Hugh Cammell, Francis Story, and John Cornice, having deserted, Orders were given by the proper Officers to William Hughes, Serjeant in Captn. Robert Stewart's Company, to pursue, apprehend, and bring them safe to their respective Companys, and in virtue of these Orders, the said Five Deserters were apprehended and committed to the Jayl of this City. And the said William Hughes now applys to me for a sufficient Guard to assist him to conduct them to their Regiment, and to provide them wth Horses, and to bear the Charges on the Road; And as this Application appears to me to be reasonable, and that it will be for his Majesty's Service, it is my Opinion that he should be furnished with Men and Horses sufficient to enable to conduct them to their Regiment, and that ye Charges arising thereupon should be defrayed out of the publick Stock, & have sent ye s^d Wm. Hughes to you to be provided wth Men, Horses, and Money for the Occasion.

I am.

12th March, 1755.

Indorsed.—Govr. Morris's Letter to the Committee of Assembly, for borrowing and disposing of £5000. No. 26.

Mr. Hughes to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Please your Excellency,

I am Come to Desire your Exll^y Assistance, as I am Come From Winchester after five Deserters, four Belonging to Capt. Robt. Stewart's Comp^y, and one Belonging to Coll. Adam Stevens Comp^y, and I have taken them in this town, and have them Confined in the Prison, I was Obliged to Apply to the Constables for to Assist in takin them, they want their fees & the Jalor his fees. When I was Ordered from Winchester after the said Deserters I had a Warrant to press Horses, and did not Expect they had Got so far off; when I Come into this Province I could not press, so I was Obliged to Hire fresh Horses; I Brought but Little money with me, & I have Expended it all, so I hope your Excellency will Assist with some money to Carry me Back with the Said Deserters to our Company. Likewise, I Begg the faviour of an Order from your Excellency,

that you will grant me Assistance from Constable to Constable through this Province, As they are very Rustical fellows.

From Y^r Most Obedient
& Most Humb^le Servant,
To Command,
W. HUGHES,*
Serjant of the Said Company.

Philadelphia, March ye 12th, 1755.

Directed.—To the Honble Governor Morris.

Indorsed.—March 12th, 1755, W. Hughes. No. 27.

Committee of Assembly to Gov. Morris, 1755.

May it Please the Govern^r,

We have consider'd the Govern^rs letter of 12th Ins^t., Sent us by William Hughes, relat^s to the five deserters from the Virginia Regiment, & have also advis'd with some others of the Members of Assembly in town, who with us are of Opinion that the Instructions given us by the House are not sufficient to authorise us to advance money for this purpose.

JOS. FOX,
EVAN MORGAN,
JAM^s. PEMBERTON.

Philad^a., 14th March, 1755.

Directed.—To Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Lieutenant Govern^r, &c., of the Province of Pennsilvania.

Indorsed.—14 March, 1755, Joseph Fox & Others to ye Govr. respecting deserters.

Gov. Morris to Committee of Assembly, 1755.

To Isaac Norris, Esquire, Speaker, Evan Morgan, Joseph Fox, James Pemberton & others, Gentlemen empowered to borrow and dispose of Five Thousand Pounds, &c., &c.

Gentlemen:

I herewith send you a Letter from Captn. John Shirley, applying for an Allowance for the Men he has raised here under his Majesties

* See letter of Morgan & Pemberton below, and p. 271.

Beating Orders, and as I think this is within the Intention of the Secretary of State's Letter to me, I recommend it to You to make him ye Allowance Requested.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your most humble Servant.

17th March, 1755.

Indorsed.—Draft to Committee recommending the payment of J. Shirley's Charges for subsisting his recruits in this Province.

No. 30.

Gov. De Lancey to Gov. Morris, 1755.

New York, 18th March, 1755.

Sir:

I laid your Honor's letter of the 6th instant before the Council, who were of opinion that I should consent to the meeting proposed at Colonel Johnsons, for the purchase intended, so that such purchase do not extend to any lands to the Northward of the beginning of the Fourty third degree of Northern Latitude, which is esteemed to be the Southern Boundary of this Province, on that part & the Northern Boundary of Pensylvania; the Council were further of opinion, as the charge against M^r. Lydius is general, the Board cannot order a Prosecution against him by the Attorney General, But that the Goverment of Pensylvania have leave to commence & carry on any Prosecution against him in the Kings name, so that you will be pleased to take such measures as you shall judge proper; this Government greatly disapproves of the Practice with which Lydius is charged. The Indians you sent are upon their return with a few others, the interpreter is a lying knave, and the chief is turned sot. I have ordered each of the Indians a pair of Shoes, stockings & a shirt, and a Blanket beside to Scarawayody, & the Mayor is, by my direction, to give them some money, what he thinks proper for their expences from hence.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient &

most humble servant,

JAMES DE LANCEY.*

Governor Morris.

Indorsed.

Govr De Lancey to Govr Morris. 18 March, 1755.

* See reply, p. 279.

Gov. Sharpe to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Annapolis, March 19th, 1755.

Sir:

I herewith dispatch to You a Packet which I received last night from Williamsburg. I have just received Advice that all the Transports, with the Troops expected from Europe, are arrived in Virginia. Our Assembly is still sitting, but I entertain but faint hopes of their granting such Supplies as I have been solliciting.

With the greatest Respect,
I am, Sir,
Your most humble
& obedient Servant,
HOR'O. SHARPE.*

Indorsed.
Govr Sharpe. March 19th, 1755.

Franklin & Hall to Gov. Morris, 1755.

March 20, 1755.

Sir:

We should with great Readiness & Submission have obey'd your Honour's Commands, in Forbearing to publish the two Letters from Sir Thomas Robinson, of July the 5th, & October the 26th, were it only a Concern of our own, or a Matter in our Disposition. But as those Letters are contain'd in the Votes and Proceedings of the Assembly, and inserted therein by their Order, we could not omit them without obtaining the Directions of the House. To that End we laid the Commands received from your Hon^r before the Assembly. But the House has expressly order'd us to proceed directly in publishing the Votes containing those Letters; and we being, as their Printer, the immediate Servants of the House, are oblig'd in this Matter to obey their Orders. We therefore hope your Hon^l will excuse us, and believe us to be, with all possible Respect,

Your Hon^rs most obedient
and most humble Servants,
FRANKLIN & HALL.†

To the hon^ble Govr Morris.

Indorsed.
Franklin & Hall. March 20th, 1756.

* See reply, p. 280.

† See Col. Rec. Vol. VI., p. 327--329. This letter is in Franklin's handwriting.

Thomas Penn to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Sir:

Since I wrote you the 26th of last month I have received your Letter of the 28th of December, enclosing a duplicate of the Deserters examination; I have also received your Letter of the 8th January, with the Coppys of all the Messages that have passed between you and the Assembly, and immediately sent their answer of the 3d, and yours in return of the 7th of January, to Sir Thomas Robinson, who thought theirs full of the spirit of the last Century, and that you had condescended rather too much in the being so particular in your answer to them. I also informed my Lord President, Sir Thomas Robinson, and Lord Hallifax, of their Representation which was presented yesterday, and of which Mr. Partridge delivered me a Coppy this day, it is only against Proprietery Institutions, and not to the King in Council, so that what course will be taken with it I cannot tell yet; it is a very silly performance, and I believe Mr. Partridges Friends dont like it, as he proposed an accommodation when he delivered it to me, and told me it was the opinion of several Friends that would be better than carrying it any further; but I positively refused to hearken to any such offer, and am just now informed a scurrilous Letter was this day read at the meeting for sufferings, signed by Isaac Norris and one Callender, to desire their assistance, which they returned to Partridge, judging it did not properly come before them, so that whether they will concern themselves in it or not I am not certain, but rather think they will not; however, whether they do or not, I am under no apprehension of receiving any censure for any instructions we have given, or that your conduct will be condemned; on the contrary, that it will be very much approved, and I shall insist upon the most speedy examination. As the Assembly did not send you a Coppy of their representation, and may keep it as close as they have done our last answer, I send you one enclosed.

We are yet uncertain whether the French will comply with the demands made, but a very few days will determine it, as there is a time limited set them, if we declare War it is determined to have such a body of Troops in North America as will secure our Colonys in time to come, I am told ten thousand, if so something great will be undertaken. We never were so well prepared for sea service, at the beginning of a War, as at present; great numbers of people enter, a bounty of £3 a man being given for able Sea men, so that we shall be ready for the French Fleet whenever it puts to sea.

I shall write you more fully by Budden, who will sail in about three weeks, in the mean time remain,

Sir,

Your very affectionate Friend,

THO. PENN.

London, March 21, 1755.

P. S. I think any person having made the declarations in your Letter mentioned lyable to a prosecution, and indeed that you cannot avoid taking notice of such expressions as they manifest a disaffection to his Majestys Government; and I recommend this to your immediate consideration, as I also do our Receivers making some seizures for Rent when there is no cause of dispute, as the people talk of associating, after an advertisement has been published requiring them to pay, we desire you will send for Mr. Peters and Mr. Hockley, and talk with them upon it.

Indorsed.

Thos Penn, with ye Assemblys representn. March 21, 1755.
For the Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr.

Gov'r. Morris to R. Peters, 1755.

To Richard Peters, Esq'r., Secretary of the Province of Pensilvania.

You are hereby ordered to Inspect the Journals of the House of Assembly of this Province, from the Day of their meeting on ye 17th to yesterday, the 20th Instant, both inclusive, To make a Copy thereof and report the same to me.

ROB'T. H. MORRIS.*

Philada., March 21st, 1755.

Indorsed.

Governor Morris's Order to Secretary to inspect Journals of Assembly. 21 March, 1755.

John Rutherford to Gov. Morris, 1755.

March 22, 1755.

Sir,

I write Your Honour a few lines, tho' I shan't think I have any thing material to say untill the two Regiments from Cork arrives. Our Review by Sir John St. Clair is over, & after what he has discharged, I think what remains here will be fit for any Service; I shall want twenty Recruits to compleat my Company, in room of those he has discharged & those I had discharged befor, which I have a promise of getting from Maryland immediatly, from Capt. Jordan & some other friends, but for the greater security I send now, A

* See Colon. Rec. Vol. VI, pp. 237, 305, 327–8, 331, 339.

Serj't & Drummer towards Carlisle & Lancaster, hearing of some Men desirous of listing in that Road, so have given them an order to Recruit which I beg Your Honour will confirm if necessary to Serjeant Thomas Eustace, to the care of Mr. Simons at Lancaster, which Mr. Elliot will forward.

Coll[l] Innes remains here to take care of stores & Indian affairs, & Sir John by Genl[l]. Braddock's orders, has left under my Command my own Company, Capt. Demere's & two Companys of Virginia Rangers, fifety men each, under Capt. Waggoner & Capt. Perronee; Capt. Clark's, as unfit for service is sent off to Recruit and Capt. Dagworthy's to be draughted for compleating the British Regim[ts]. The greatest plague I find in my Command proceeds from Whisky, which has allwayes prevailed in spite of many expedients since the arrival of troops here. I must get the better of it if possible & have punished several Soldiers & staved some whiskey, but great Complaints are made by the Owners for want of proper warning, So I must beg Your Honour would please order the inclosed Advertisement to be published in Your News papers for three weeks, & if 'tis not in proper words pray amend it. I must likewise beg Your Honour would please publish Your own order upon my Application to Justices of the Peace & other Magistrates, to be very strict in examining travelling persons incapable of giving proper Accounts of themselves which will be a great means of preventing Desertion from this. Some Deserters are gone off lately & I am afraid of many more soon, when the rest of the Virginia Companys of Rangers arrives. I should be very proud of Your Honour's Commands, & glad to know what you hear from the Northward, having great hopes on the Diversion Gov'r Shirley will make there. Pray let me have the pleasure to hear Capt. Morris is fixed in a Company & comeing with those I hear will be ordered this way. I am with the greatest regard,

Sir,

Your Honours

Most obedient & most

humble Servant,

JOHN RUTHERFORD.

Fort Cumberland, Wills' Creek,
22d March, 1755.

Indorsed.

Mr. Eliot is desired to write the Serjeant's name in a hand that can be read.

Thomas Eustace.

Gov. De Lancey to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Sunday Evening, N. York, 23 March, 1755.

Sir,

I just now received this Packet from Governor Shirley by express and am going to town to get a man to carry it on to you in like manner. I am glad Mr. Shirley is to have an interview with the General, he is so well acquainted with this Country that I am persuaded the best of measures will be the result of their conferences. I am

Sir,

Your most humble Servant,

JAMES De LANCEY.

Gov'r Morris.

Gov. Shirley to Gov. Morris 1755.

Boston, March 24th, 1755.

Dear Sir,

I have a minute's time to acknowledge the favour of your last letter, to ask pardon for not writing last post, and to let you know y^t I hope to kiss your hands at Philadelphia, in a day or two at farthest after the arrival of the post.

Be pleased to excuse me to Mr. Tinker, with my complim^ts to him until that time, and let him know I am much at his service.

The inclosed extracts will acquaint you with the posture of Affairs in England. When the Master of the Vessell wch brought the Letters left England, there was, he says, the hottest Impress that was ever known in the river and Downes.

I am,

with great truth,

Dear Sir,

Your most faithfull,

Humble Servant,

W. SHIRLEY.

Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esq'r.

Gov. Morris to Gov. De Lancey, 1755.

March 25th, 1755.

Sir,

I am favour'd with yours of the 18th* Instant, in answer to mine of the 6th.

The purchase of all the Lands lying within the King's Grant to the late Mr. Penn from the Six Nations, was thought to be ye only proper Expedient to prevent the confusion y^t^ might arise from ye wild Schemes of the Connecticut people, which if carried into Execution, must destroy ye peace of other Provinces as well as that of Pennsylvania.

It was the Request of Hendrick, that a Treaty for this purpose might be held at Coll. Johnson's, and out of complaisance to him, and from an Opinion that the Six Nations coud not be allowed to be absent at such a time as this from their Castles, it was conceded to, and as soon as I knew Coll. Johnson's mind about this Expedient and that it would not be disagreeable to him to have the treaty held at Coll. Johnson's, I thought proper as it was within your Goverm^t^, to inform you of the whole Proceeding and the reasons in support of it.

I proposed to take the Grant, if we can agree with the Indians in the express words of Mr. Penn's Charter, and against this I conceive you can have no Objection, since you will be, after any such Indian Purchase, in ye very same Circumstances you are now, as to your Interpretation of ye Extent of the King's Grant, for tho' we differ widely in this point, yet your Claims will not be at all affected if ye Indian Boundaries be ye very same wth those described in ye Royal Charter.

I am taking measures to obtain Evidence ag^t^ Lydius, and when this is laid before me & approved, I shall then renew my application & take ye legal steps agreeable to your kind letter, for wch I return you thanks, as I do for your kindness to Scarroyady & his unworthy Interpreter. This Chief is really a man of Consequence at Ohio, & will not be thought there, to have degraded himself by a too free use of ye intoxicating Cup.

Indorsed.

Dft to Gov'r Delancey.

* See page 273.

Gov. Morris to Gov. Sharpe, 1755.

Sir—

Your express brought me your favour of ye 19th Instant,* and the agreeable news of the arrival of all the forces from Europe. Had the several Assemblys upon the Continent done their duty our mother Country might have saved the expense of this imbarkation, but while the Colonys are so divided in their councils and their Assemblys, are made up of men quite unacquainted with the nature of government, & have private selfish ends to answer, nothing good or great can reasonably be expected from them.

I am sorry to find that our Assemblys are so much alike, and that neither of them have a proper regard for the safety of their country; mine has been sitting a week, and I have endeavoured to prevail on them to give largely upon the present occasion, but must own that my hopes are not very sanguine.

Since writing the above, an express arrived with Governor Shirley's packet, which I send you here with, and also an article of news from Lisbon, which Govr Shirley sent me by the same hand.

I have only time to assure you that I am, with great respect.

Sr, Your most Obedt

Humble servt.

Philad. March 25, 1755.

Indorsed.

Dft. to Govr Sharpe with Govr Shirley's Packet to Genl Braddock, March 25, 1755.

Gov. Morris to Gov. De Lancey, 1755.

Philada, March, 26th, 1755.

Sir—

Your Express brought me Govr Shirley's packet, which I immediately sent forward to Genl Braddock, from whom yesterday Express the Enclos'd Letter to you which he tells me is an Invitation to you to meet him and the severall Govrs at Anopolis, to consult upon the measures necessary to be pursued, I hope you will Joyne Govr Shirley and make one at that Congress, where many things may be thought on for the genl benefit of the Colonys, and I am happy in thinking yt I shall have an opportunity of Entertaining you in this Province and accompanying you to Annopolis.

My Assembly are sitting, but have the same obstinate spirit that Possessd em the Last Sessions, by all that I can yet Learn.

I am, Sir, your most Obt

Humble servt,

ROBT. H. MORRIS.

* See page 274.

A Vessell yesterday from Lisbon confirms the news of the taking of Madrass, and the Hot press in Eng^d.

Indorsed—

Copy, Govr DeLancey, March 26th, 1755.

James F. Mercer to Gov. Morris, 1755.

D^r S^r—

I have sent Capt. Discary with the Lieut^s Kemperfelt & Conling to recruit in your Province, it were presumption in me to recommend Gentlemen of their merit to You, who know so well how to distinguish it. Your Zeal for his Majesty's Service will procure them your influence with such as are willing and able to promote it. I wish you all happiness and Success in your endeavors for the good of the Public. I am, with the highest regard & Esteem,

Sir,

Your much oblig^d &

most ob^t Humble serv^t,

JAMES F. MERCER.

The Honble Robt. Hunter Morris, &c.

New York, March 28th, 1755.

Directed—

To the Honble Robt Hunter Morris, Esqr,

Governor of Pensilvania, &c. &c.

Gov. Dobbs to Gov. Morris, 1755.

S^r

Having the opportunity of Mr. Beatty, a dissenting Clergyman of much merit, returning to Pensylvania, I would not lose the opportunity of opening a Correspondence with you, and tho' late to Congratulate you on your safe arrival at y^r Government.

I am much Concern'd that your zeal for his Majesty's service and the general good of the Colonys, has not had such success in the Assembly as we had reason to Expect upon so great an Emergency; from the obstinacy of the Quakers, who I hear Direct the Assembly, and will neither fight to defend their Rights & Properties, nor open their Purses to enable others to fight for them. These Principles and their Obstinacy may, however, Induce the British Parliam^t to pass an Act, that those whose Principles will not allow them to sup-

port goverment, and Defend their Rights, should have no share in the government or Legislature, by rendring them incapable of Being Elected, or of Electing others.

I sent to you, inclosed to Mr. Dinwiddie, a Copy of my Message to this Assembly, relative to the French Schemes, which I hope he forwarded to you, as I had no other Conveyance; lest he should not, I have sent you another by Mr. Beatty for your Perusal.

The Assembly have granted as much as their late distracted affairs would allow of, considering what was thrown away Imprudently last year to no purpose; as we have no Calls on Credit out of the Colony by our Paper Currency, until I get it put upon a Better footing, by emitting it upon a Sufficient Security, by a Loan Office upon mortgage on Land.

I shall long to hear that your Assembly has complyed to grant a proper supply, such as is proper for so Rich and Populous a Province, who have such great Indulgencies in Trade; and that they will Concur Cheerfully in the united defense of all the Colonies.

I wish you Success in all your Endeavours for the good of all the Provinces, and am with due Regard and Esteem,

Sr

Yr Excellencies

most Obedt Humble Servt,

ARTHUR DOBBS.

To his Excellency Governour Morris.

New Bern, March 30th, 1755.

Gov Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Boston, March 31, 1755.

Sir,

In answer to a Request made to me by the Council & House of Representtves of this Province, (Copy whereof you have herewith inclosed,) I must pray your Honour That, as a Matter which His Majesty's Service doth require at this Conjuncture, an effectual Stop may be put in your Governmt (for the present) to any Trades being carried on from thence with the French in any Ports in North America. I am, with due Regard,

Sir,

Your Honour's most

Obedient, humble Servant.

In the Name & by Order of his Excy Wm. Shirley, Esqr.,

J. Willard, Secry.

The honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr.

Indorsed—

Secretary Willard—with a Vote of the Assembly of Massachusets Bay, requiring a Stop to be put to Carrying Provisions out of the Provinces.

Proceedings of Council of Massachusetts, 1755.*

Province of the
Massachusetts Bay. }

In the House of Represent^ves, March 29, 1755.

Voted that the Governour be desired to write to the Governours of the several Governm^ts in North America, that they effectually (for the present) put a Stop to any Trades being carried on from their respective Governm^ts with the French in any of their Ports in North America.

Sent up for Concurrence.

T. HUBBARD, Spk^r.

In Council, March 29, 1755, Read & Concur'd.

Thos. Clarke, Dep^ty Secry.

Copy examined,—Per J. Willard, Secry.

Certificate of Thos, Clarke, 1755.

April 1st, 1755.

Kent County on Delaware.

I do hereby Certifie and declare that I was Collector of the Muspelion Hundred in the County afs^d, for the Years 1752 and 1753, and that I did receive of a Certain James Anderson, for the Years afs^d, his Levies for said Years, who was then living on the Land & Premises that he now does. And I do further Certifie that the said Anderson was taken and returned by one of the Constables of the afs^d Hundred to the Levy Court of said Co^ty, & by the Assessors of the afs^d County assessed for the Year 1754, as appears by my Collector's List; As Witness my hand, this 1st day of April, 1755.

THOS. CLARK.*

Indorsed—

Certificate of Thos^s. Clarke of James Anderson's Paym^t of Taxes in Kent Co., sent up by Justice Johns.

* Referred to in the preceding.
† See Deposition of James Anderson, p. 266.

Gov. Morris to Sir Thomas Robinson, 1755.

Sir,

The last I had the Honour to write You was on the thirtieth of January, since which General Braddock is arrived in Virginia with the Two Regiments from Ireland; and those ordered to be raised in America are now very near compleat, and might have been by this time very fit for Service if the American Assemblys had shewed a proper Regard to their own Interest and Safety, or to the Commands of the Crown,

As soon as I was informed of the General's Arrival, I called the Assembly of this Province together, that they might be ready to consider anything he had to recommend without Delay, and accordingly on the Eighteenth of last month pressed them to grant Supplies, not only for furnishing Provisions and Necessaries to the Troops, but for opening Roads and providing Carriages, and laid before them a Plan formed by Governor Shirley, for removing the French from their Encroachments in Nova Scotia, and for building a Fort near the French Fort at Crown Point, in which he desired the Aid of this Province; but notwithstanding the Danger this Country stands exposed to from the French, the noble Opportunity they have by strengthening the Hands of General Braddock of removing them, and effectually securing these Colonies against their future Attempts, I have not been able to prevail on them to do any thing to the purpose, and they are grown so very unreasonable, and entertain such out of the way Notions of their own Rights and Priviledges, that nothing good is to be expected from them till they are reduced to a proper Sense of themselves. For besides the Right of Meeting and sitting for what Time they please, independent of the Governor, they have lately taken upon them very new and extraordinary Powers.

At the Close of the last Sessions, I demanded a Copy of their Proceedings, but could not obtain them till they were sent me in print, two Months after the Assembly were adjourned, and I was surprized to find there at large your several Letters to me,* which I had laid before them to induce them to grant the Supplies recommended by the Crown; and thinking it not only a bad Practice to publish the commands of the Crown, signified by a Secretary of State, but of dangerous Consequence, I sent a Message to the House recommending *it to them to leave out those Letters*, and to delay the Publication of their Votes till that was done, but they insisted they had a Right to print and publish every thing that was laid before them, and refused either to expunge the Letters or to delay the Publication of them: whereupon, I sent an Order to the Printers,* forbidding them to publish those Letters, of which the House of Assembly being informed ex-

* See Col. Rec, Vol. VI., p. 327, &c. † See p. 274.

pressly ordered the Printers to proceed in the Publication, and they did so accordingly, as You will observe not only by the printed Votes of the House herewith sent You, but by the Messages and Orders that have passed upon the head, which I have the Honour to enclose with this.

As it is beyond Doubt the Right of the Government to know from time to time what is done, or doing, by any Body of Men acting under the Authority of the Crown, and as I had in vain endeavoured to procure a Copy of the Assemblies Proceedings during the last Sitting, I thought it right to let them know, that I expected the Clerk would attend me every day with their Votes, but they would neither permit him to do so, nor suffer their Journals to be inspected by the Secretary, who I sent for that purpose.*

Immediately upon my refusing to pass a Bill they sent me for striking Twenty Five Thousand Pounds in Bills of Credit, of which I shall transmit you a Copy by the next Conveyance, as it is of a very extraordinary Nature; the House, without my Knowledge or Consent, have resolved to issue Notes of Credit from Five to Fifty Pounds each, to the Amount of Ten Thousand Pounds, which they by their own Authority give towards carrying on Governor Shirley's Plan of Operations, and though this be the Pretence for making use of such an unconstitutional Power, yet the true Design is to encrease their own Power, and to make a Precedent for issuing Bills of Credit without the Consent of the Government; for such these Notes really are, and will have a Currency.

I need not observe to You, Sir, the Danger of such Powers in the Hands of any Assembly, and especially of one annually chosen by a People, a great part, if not a Majority of whom are Foreigners, unattached to an English Government, either by Birth or Education. And as none of these Things are warranted by the Proprietary Charter, under which the Assembly act, or in the least countenanced by the Proprietaries themselves, I think them the more extraordinary, and very worthy the Notice of the Government.

As well in the last Sessions as in the present, I frequently recommended to the Assembly, pursuant to the Instructions of the Proprietors, to put this Province into a Posture of Defence; but they are determined to come into no measures for that purpose, notwithstanding its present dangerous Situation: and tho' this Province be very able to contribute largely towards the necessary Expenses of the present Expedition, and it is so much their Interest to do it, yet the Assembly cannot be prevailed upon to lay any Tax, or to grant the Supplies necessary for the Troops that are employed for their Protection, unless they can at the same time encrease and render permanent their own Power and Authority.

I am sorry it is not in my Power to give You a more agreeable Account of the Condition of this Province, and can only assure You,

* See page 276.

that my best Endeavours have not been wanting to promote his Majesties Service, and have the Honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble Servant.

Philadelphia, 9th April, 1755.

Gov. Morris to Thomas Penn, 1755.

Philad^a, April 9, 1755.

Sir:

My last to you was of the 30th of Jan^ry, giving an account of the Proceedings of the Sessions of Assembly that ended on the 10th of that month, which I sent by way of Virginia and New York, no vessel then offering from this Port.

As soon as I was informed of the arrival of Genl Braddock I summoned the Assembly, who met on the 17th of the last month, and I then laid before them Genl Braddocks first letter to me,* which being wrote in a high stile, I thought it would have some influence upon their conduct, and without so much as mentioning any dispute that had subsisted at the last Sessions. I recommend the granting immediate supplys, not only for furnishing provisions for the troops, but for several other matters, as you will observe by the Message it self, which waits on you under this cover, with the several others that have pass'd between us.

The inclosed letter from Gov. Shirley, wth the Message to his Council & Assembly, and their resolves, will let you into the Plan of operations he had formed for the summer before General Braddocks arrival, with this addition, that the two thousand New England men intended for Nova Scotia, with the aid of some of the regular troops there, are to drive away all the neutral French from that country, who have lately refused to take the oaths of allegiance, immediately after which, and about the time that the Provincial forces are marching against Crown Point, the four regiments in Nova Scotia, with the two thousand New England men, are to attack the several French forts upon the river S^t. John, and at Chekenecta, all at the same time.

The several Governments of New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut & New York, have acceded to the Plan concerted at Boston, and are now raising men with all dispatch. The Assembly of this Province have given ten thousand pounds for Provisions, in the manner I shall mention when I come to speak of their Proceedings. Genl Braddocks arrival with the Troops from Ireland, who are all in good health at Alexandria, having lost but one man in the Voyage, has put a stop to the measures proposed by M^r. Shirley, till the

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. VI. p. 307.

Gen^{ls} sentiments are known concerning it, and he has requested M^{r}. Shirley, M^{r}. Delancy, and myself, to meet him at Annapolis, where M^{r}. Dinwiddie and M^{r}. Sharpe are to accompany him, in order to consider the present state of the Colony, and how best to employ the forces for their security & Protection, and I am in hourly expectation of Govr Shirley & Govr Delancy, with whom I shall immediately proceed to Annapolis.

I endeavourd all I could to procure a Coppy of the Proceedings of the Assembly, so as to have sent them to you by one of the winter ships, but my endeavour proved ineffectual, and for that reason by a message, I insisted that the clerk should attend me every night with the minutes of the day, that I might know what was done and doing in their House, but this they w'd not suffer, and in their message upon that head let me know that I should have their minutes when they were Printed, & not before, whereupon I made an order to the Secretary to inspect their Journals, but they would not permit him to do it.*

Upon this I need only observe that the keeping their Proceedings a secret from the government is not only new & extraordinary, but dangerous in its consequences. As I did not see their minutes till after they were Printed, I did not know till then that they intended to Publish Sr Thomas Robinson's letters to me, and as I found em at large in their minutes, I sent the House a Message desiring they might be left out, and upon their refusing to comply with my request in that Particular, I sent an order to the Printers to forbid the Publication of those letters, which they laid before the House, and received from them a peremptory order to Publish them, which was notified by the Printers to me, as you will see by the enclosed letter.

Soon after the meeting of the Assembly one of Gov. Shirley's Commissioners arrived here to ask the aid of this government as to the eastern expeditions, and I sent a special message to the Assembly, accompanying a letter Mr. Quincy, the Commiss^{r}, at my request wrote to me upon the subject, upon which they sent me up a Bill for striking twenty-five thousand pounds in bills of credit to be sunk by a ten years continuance of the Excise at 2500^{lbs} ℔ annum. Five thousand pounds of this money was immediately to be paid to the speaker and others, to pay the sums they had borrowed by order of the House of the 3^{d} of Jan^{ry} last, tho' not above 1500^{bls} of that money has been laid out; 10,000^{lbs} was to be paid to a Committee of the House, to be apply'd to Purchase Provisions for the use of the troops raised in the eastern governments; 5000^{l} was to be subject to Genl Braddock's draughts, and five thousand pounds was to remain in the Loan office, to be disposed of by the Assembly. Upon a bill thus circumstanced you may imagine I could not long hesitate and therefore sent them a message that I could not consent to it, but as I was made to hope they would come into a tax and give Hand-

* Colon. Rec., Vol. VI., p. 327, &c. And 274 & 276 of this Vol.

somely, I refused my assent in the softest manner, without taking any notice of the extraordinary steps they had taken with respect to Sr Thomas Robinson's letters, or their secreting their Journals.

Upon this refusal they resolved to borrow ten thousand pounds upon their own credit, and apply it to the eastern expedition, but upon tryal they found the mony'd people not inclinable to Lend any money upon so precarious a security, whereupon they agreed to Issue notes payable to the Bearer in a year, with five ℔ cent Interest, and lest these notes should not obtain a currency, I am told, they are forming an association to circulate them. This in Effect is making paper money without the Consent of the King or Governor, and I think is worthy the Notice of the government at Home, for if an Assembly who claim a right of siting when & as long as they Please, of keeping their proceedings a secret from the government, can borrow & dispose of money, & circulate their notes without the knowledge or Consent of the government, and that without Limitation of sum, they may, whenever they Please, employ that Power against the Government by which they are protected, and under whose authority they sit & act, and as these their claims & proceedings are not warranted by their Charter from your father, nor countenanced by you, their Principall Govr, they are more Lyable to Censure.

In the Votes of the last Sessions you will find the representation of the Assembly to you in 1751, your answer thereto, and a reply that has strained and put the worst construction upon every word of your answer, and tho' every Judicious, impartial reader must be sensible of the unfairness of their reply, yet for such it was not intended but to set the whole people of this Province, as much as Possible, against the Proprietarys, the secret of their affairs.

I thought it my duty to send them a message on the third day of this Instant, to put the Province into a Posture of defence upon the intelligence I had of the French designs of sending a fleet of ships and a body of Land forces to North America. But I do not find that they have any intention of doing their duty in this respect.

Indorsed.

April 9th, 1755. D'ft to M. Penn.

Extract—Capt. Rutherford to Mr. Allen, 1755.

Fort Cumberland, 20 Apr, 1755.

Sir:

I heartily rejoyce with you and all my good Friends at Philada, whom I have so Sencer regard for, on the Safe arrival of the Genl, the two Regiments' Train, and upon their designing to march immediately; what a pitty 'tis they ant here now, Fort DuQuesne would be an easy conquest, where there is not now 200 French and

Indians; & calling in their Indians & receiving Succours from Canada would bring them very Slow relief; they talk only of 200 men ready at a Call from Winango, but their great dependance for next Summer seems to be on the numerous tribes of Indians who have engaged to join them. We have very late intelligences, both by Indians and three Woodboys, who, Crossing the Mountains in Search of horses they had lost last Summer, were taken by a party of French and Indians, carryd to the Fort, and examin'd as Spys, but after threatening them with hanging if they were ever found again over the mountains, they sent them back with the next party, one of which they keep always out this way to prevent Desertions, get intelligence, and prevent our Indian Trade; the French are much alarmed at the news they've gott from our Indians, as we call them, & from a Deserter from Capt. Dagworthy's Comp^{y}, of great Levys in New England, & troops expected here from Briton, and ask'd the Woodboys a thousand questions about both, but they had wisely enough agreed to pretend great ignorance in fear of contradicting each other, the French calls this intirely an Indian Warr, in which they only act as auxilarys, and told these Woodboys that had the Indians taken them they must have remained Slaves to them; and as their Horses were taken by the Indians, the French would not take them from 'em; the party coming upon their tracts marched up to them in two bodys of Indians, six each, and one of eight Frenchmen; in the morning before they left their fire the Woodboys ran immediately to Surrender to the French, but the Indians Seized their horses.

Thomas Horsfield to R. Peters, 1755.

Beth^{m}, April 11, 1755.

S^{r}:

I came home yesterday about noon, when I heard the Indians, of whom Mr. Spangenberg Informed the Governor, had been a day or two already in Beth^{m}, they (the Indians) had been tould that I was sent to Philad^{a} to acquaint the Governor of their coming, and that I was Expected to Return Every day.

Mr. Spangenberg being from home, we consulted together what was best to do, & concluded to call the Indians together, which was done, & I spoke to them by their Interpreter, Jo Bibbe, vz., That I came yesterday from Philad^{a}, & that Governor Shirly of Boston, & Governor Delanse of New York, was there; and y^{t} our Governor was going in company with the two former to Maryland to the Governor there, about some very Important business; that the Governor ordered a leter of thanks to be wrote to Mr. Spangenberg for leting him know their coming, & also to thank them for their Intended visit, & y^{t} he was Sorey it happened so y^{t} his business called him away at this time, which would deprive him of Seeing y^{m}; and y^{t} the

Governor Expected the Six Nations to come to Philad^a to treat with him, & he Soposed they would pass throo their place, y^t then they would have a good opportunity to let the Governor know what they Desired of him. I then left them, Seemingly pretty well Satisfied, and I heard from one of the Breth^n y^t understands some Indian, y^t Pockshanose, (y^r Chief,) said they would Return home, which I was glad of, but this morning I was tould they was gone to Philad^a. I was Informed that two Irish Men pass't throo Beth^m after I had been with the Indians, and Spoke with Jo Bibbe, the Interpreter, and tould him, the people in Philad^a Expected the Indians, and was glad to hear they was coming, and y^t the Governor waited for them, and would be very glad to See them, & prest them to make haste downe.

I should been very glad you had obtained your desired wish, which might have been had not the Men above Spoke with the interpreter.

I am, Sir,

Your very hum^e Servt.

TIM. HORSFIELD.

To Richd Peters, Esqr,
at Philadelphia.

Gen. Braddock to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Alexandria. in Virginia,
April 15th, 1755.

Sir:

As I am inform'd there are a Number of Indians in your Province that formerly liv'd near the River Ohio, & were driven from thence by the French, I must desire You would acquaint them that I am now on my March with a Body of the King's Troops, to remove the French from their Incroachments upon that River, & to restore that Country to our Allies, the Indians, & to protect them in ye Enjoyment of it. And as those Indians must be very well acquainted wth that Country, & may be very usefull to me in the Course of this Expedition, I must desire You will prevail wth the able Men of 'em to join me at Wills's Creek, where they shall be kindly receiv'd, & in the Course of the Service furnish'd with Necessaries.

You will advise me of what You do in relation to this Affair, & of the Number of Indians that are to join me from your Province, & I doubt not your Assembly will take care of the Women & Children 'till the Return of the men, as they will be very troublesome in the Camp.

I am Sir,

Your most Humble Servant.

E. BRADDOCK.

Honble Robt Hunter Morris, Esqr.

Indorsed.—Referred to in Council, 23^d Apr. 1755.

Sir Thomas Robinson to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Whitehall, 16th April, 1755.

Sir:

The King having thought it necessary for His Service, to order a Squadron of Ships of War to sail forthwith to America, under the Command of Vice Admiral Boscawen; I am directed to signify to you His Majesty's Pleasure, that, in case any Naval Assistance shall be wanted for the Protection of your Government, that you should apply for the same, to the said Vice Admiral, or to Commodore Keppell, who is already stationed in America, or any other Commander in Chief, for the Time being, of His Majesty's Ships in those Seas, who will send you such Assistance, as He may be able to do consistently with the general service, & you will regularly communicate to them all such Intelligence, as shall come to your knowledge, concerning the Arrival of any Ships of War, or Vessels having Warlike Stores on Board; and likewise, all such Advices, as may concern their motions & Destination, or may, in any manner, relate to that Part of His Majesty's Service, with which the Commanders of the King's Ships should be acquainted, who are properly Instructed, by the King's Order, to observe an exact Correspondence with you, during their continuance in America. And, for the better Execution of the Orders sent you in this Letter, you will be diligent in employing proper Persons & Vessels, not only to procure the earliest Intelligence, but likewise to be dispatched, from Time to Time, to the said Commander of His Majesty's Ships, with such Accounts, as you shall have Occasion to communicate to Them.

I am,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble Servant,
T. ROBINSON.

P.S.—I have received your Letters of Decr 24 & 29th, & January 30th.

April 16, 1755.

Indorsed.

Sir Thos Robinson:

That the King had sent a fleet under Boscawen, upon whom, or upon Comder Keppel, I am to call for Assistance.

W. Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Dear Morris:

I can't let Mr. Franklin go without writing a line to you; He will inform you of ye the Service he has undertaken to do for the General, & of his success in it. Sr John St Clair complains very loudly of your not having causd a Road to be made as he has desird, thro' your Prov^e to Will's Creek. Be so good as to forward my Letters to Boston. My Love to Staats. Let me hear often from you, & believe me ever,

Y^rs most aff^ly,
W. SHIRLEY.

Govr Morris,
Frederick, April 23^d, 1755.

Directed.
To the Honble Robt Hunter Morris, Esqr., Governor of Pensilvania. No. 25.

Gen'l Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Sir:

In Consequence of His Majestys Royal Orders for his several Gov^rs upon this Continent, to maintain a strict Correspondence upon matters relative to his Service at this Critical Conjuncture, I think it my Duty to observe to you, that some weeks ago, undoubted accounts arrived that the French were fitting out at Brest, a strong Squadron, and Transports for a very considerable number of Troops, the destination of which, was Suspected by the Government at home, to be for North America. That since then, we have received accounts from England of six large men of warr being sailed from Brest, with some Transports, and very lately we have had advices of that number of large Ships of warr, together with some Transport Vessels, being seen to go into the Harbour of Louisbourg.

If this should be the Case, and the French receive a reinforcement of Troops from Europe this Spring, they may, doubtless, in conjunction with their Militia of Canada, soon have a superior force upon this Continent, to that of his Majesty's regular and provincial Troops; and what fatal Effects, all the Colonies, the most Western of them, more especially, may experience from it in the course of this year, is easy to Conceive.

The two Last articles of the before-mentioned intelligence, tho' not absolutely certain, seem not improbable, and it highly imports the Several Colonies to do their respective parts for guarding even against the possibility of such an Event.

His Majesty hath been graciously pleased to furnish his Colonies with upwards of Six thousand Troops, (including the 2000 which I have lately raised in New England, at the Expence of the Crown, for the protection of Nova Scotia, in which all the others are deeply interested,) for their preservation at this crisis of their affairs. He hath assisted his Colony of Virginia with Arms and money besides. The four Colonies of New England, with those of New York, and the New Jersies, are raising 5000 men for an attack of the French Fort, at Crown point, and their other encroachments upon Lake Champlain; and have determin'd to be at the necessary Charge of engaging the Indians of the Six Nations in this important enterprize. As to the Exact number of troops raised by the Governments of Pensylvania, Maryland, Virginia, and the two Carolinas, I don't certainly know it. But I may venture to say, that it is most reasonable it should be at least equal to the Number of Troops raised in the Six most Eastern Colonies, especially if it is considered, that the driving of the Enemy from their Doors is what has occasioned the pressent motions of the English upon the Ohio and Great Lakes, and brought every part of his Majesty's Territories upon this Continent, into its present dangerous Situation.

Your Honour knows so well what your Govern^t, among the rest, owes to their king and Country upon this extraordinary occasion for Troops, to rid the English Colonies of the dangerous encroachments which the French have already made, and protect them against the further Attempts they are now meditating, that I am persuaded you will press it upon your Assembly in the strongest manner; and Can't but hope, that they will think themselves so interested in the Common Cause, as to execute what your Honour shall recommend to them as their Duty for promoting it.

I am, with very great Regard,
Sir,
Your Honour's Most Humble,
and Most Obedient Servt,
W. SHIRLEY.

The Honble Robt Hunter Morris, Esqr.,
April 24th, 1755.

W. Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Dear Morris:

The Letter from the General which accompanies this, will sufficiently inform you of the End for which it is wrote; But I think it necessary to apprize you that Sr J. S^t. Clair has conceiv'd great Resentm^t at your Neglect (as he calls it) for his Application to you for ye Road there mention'd. If no Delay has happen'd in this Matter thro' your default, as I should not apprehend it had, I make

no doubt you will answer any Letter he may write to you upon it in Such manner as a Governor of a Province should do a Deputy Quarter Master Genl., and I would advise you in your next Dispatches to ye Secr'y of State to Set this Business in its fair & proper light. I mention this not to make any difference between Sir John and you, but that if he should be wrongheaded enough to take upon himself to make any Representation of it at home, your Character may not Suffer for want of the Truth being known.

I am, Dear Morris,

Y^rs Most Sincerely,

W. SHIRLEY.

Frederick, April 24, 1755.

Directed.—To the Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Governor of Pensilvania, at Philadelphia.

Advertisement of B. Franklin for "Waggons," 1755.

Lancaster, April 26, 1755.

WHEREAS 150 Waggons, with 4 Horses to each Waggon, and 1500 Saddle or Pack-Horses are wanted for the Service of his Majesty's Forces now about to rendezvous at *Wills's* Creek; and his Excellency General *Braddock* hath been pleased to impower me to contract for the Hire of the same; I hereby give Notice, that I shall attend for that Purpose at *Lancaster* from this Time till next *Wednesday* Evening; and at *York* from next *Thursday* Morning 'till *Friday* Evening; where I shall be ready to agree for Waggons and Teams, or single Horses, on the following Terms, *viz.*

1*st.* That there shall be paid for each Waggon with 4 good Horses and a Driver, *Fifteen Shillings* per *Diem:* And for each able Horse with a Pack-Saddle or other Saddle and Furniture, *Two Shillings* per *Diem.* And for each able Horse without a Saddle, *Eighteen Pence* per *Diem.*

2*dly.* That the Pay commence from the Time of their joining the Forces at *Wills's* Creek, (which must be on or before the twentieth of *May* ensuing) and that a reasonable Allowance be made over and above for the Time necessary for their travelling to *Wills's* Creek and home again after their Discharge.

3*dly.* Each Waggon and Team, and every Saddle or Pack Horse is to be valued by indifferent Persons, chosen between me and the Owner, and in Case of the Loss of any Waggon, Team or other Horse in the Service, the Price according to such Valuation, is to be allowed and paid.

4*thly*. Seven Days Pay is to be advanced and paid in hand by me to the Owner of each Waggon and Team, or Horse, at the Time of contracting, if required; and the Remainder to be paid by General *Braddock*, or by the Paymaster of the Army, at the time of their Discharge, or from time to time as it shall be demanded.

5*thly*. No Drivers of Waggons, or Persons taking care of the hired Horses, are on any Account to be called upon to do the Duty of Soldiers, or be otherwise employ'd than in conducting or taking Care of their Carriages and Horses.

6*thly*. All Oats, Indian Corn or other Forage, that Waggons or Horses bring to the Camp more than is necessary for the Subsistence of the Horses, is to be taken for the Use of the Army, and a reasonable Price paid for it.

Note. My Son *William Franklin*, is impowered to enter into like Contracts with any Person in *Cumberland* County.

B. FRANKLIN.

To the Inhabitants of the Counties of Lancaster, York, *and* Cumberland.

Friends and Countrymen,

BEING occasionally at the Camp at *Frederic* a few days since, I found the General and Officers of the Army extreamly exasperated, on Account of their not being supply'd with Horses and Carriages, which had been expected from this Province as most able to furnish them; but thro' the Dissentions between our Governor and Assembly, Money had not been provided nor any Steps taken for that Purpose.

It was proposed to send an armed Force immediately into these Counties, to seize as many of the best Carriages and Horses as should be wanted, and compel as many Persons into the Service as would be necessary to drive and take care of them.

I apprehended that the Progress of a Body of Soldiers thro' these Counties on such an Occasion, especially considering the Temper they are in, and their Resentment against us, would be attended with many and great Inconveniences to the Inhabitants; and therefore more willingly undertook the Trouble of trying first what might be done by fair and equitable Means.

The People of these back Counties have lately complained to the Assembly that a sufficient Currency was wanting; you have now an Opportunity of receiving and dividing among you a very considerable Sum; for if the Service of this Expedition should continue (as it's more than probable it will) for 120 Days, the Hire of these Waggons and Horses will amount to upwards of *Thirty Thousand Pounds*, which will be paid you in Silver and Gold of the King's Money.

The Service will be light and easy, for the Army will scarce march above 12 Miles per Day, and the Waggons and Baggage Horses, as

they carry those Things that are absolutely necessary to the Welfare of the Army, must march with the Army and no faster, and are, for the Army's sake, always plac'd where they can be most secure, whether on a March or in Camp.

If you are really, as I believe you are, good and loyal Subjects to His Majesty, you may now do a most acceptable Service, and make it easy to yourselves; for three or four of such as cannot separately spare from the Business of their Plantations a Waggon and four Horses and a Driver, may do it together, one furnishing the Waggon, another one or two Horses, and another the Driver, and divide the Pay proportionably between you. But if you do not this Service to your King and Country voluntarily, when such good Pay and reasonable Terms are offered you, your Loyalty will be strongly suspected; the King's Business must be done; so many brave Troops, come so far for your Defence, must not stand idle, thro' your backwardness to do what may be reasonably expected from you; Waggons and Horses must be had; violent Measures will probably be used; and you will be to seek for a Recompence where you can find it, and your Case perhaps be little pitied or regarded.

I have no particular Interest in this Affair; as (except the Satisfaction of endeavouring to do Good and prevent Mischief) I shall have only my Labour for my Pains. If this Method of obtaining the Waggons and Horses is not like to succeed, I am oblig'd to send Word to the General in fourteen Days; and I suppose Sir *John St. Clair* the Hussar, with a Body of Soldiers, will immediately enter the Province, for the Purpose aforesaid, of which I shall be sorry to hear, because

I am, very sincerely and truly
your Friend and Well-wisher,
B. FRANKLIN.*

Indorsed.—Advertisement B. Franklin for Waggons, 1755.

LETTER FROM TO SHERIFF OF PHIL., 1755.

Copy.

Sr:

Being told yt you are about to discharge several of the Kings Soldiers now in your Custody, without the consent of their officers, I think it necessary to inform you that no sum of money can supply the place of a soldier in the Kings army, I therefore recommend it to you to Consider the consequence of such a Procedure at a time like this, and act with caution, as this whole affair is laid before the Crown, and tis not im-

* Printed from an original printed handbill.

probable that every man, not discharged by due course of Law, may be required of you.

To Ja^s. Coultas, Esqr.,
Sheriff of ye City & Co'ty of Philad^a.

26th April, 1756.

Indorsed.

Dft. of L^tr to Capt. Coultas, Sherif, April 26, 1756.

B. Franklin to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Sunday.

Sir:

I imagine that a Line from your Hon^r to the Speaker & Committee, recommending the Affair of the Forage to them, is all that is necessary to put the Matter in a Way of being done to your and Capt. Leslie's Satisfaction. If you think fit I will convene the Committee early to-morrow, deliver your Letter, and do my utmost to forward the Business.

With the greatest Respect, I am,
Your Hon^rs most obedient
humble Servant,
B. FRANKLIN.

Govern^r Morris.

Indorsed.

B. Franklin—that he would convene ye Committee, and advising me to write to them, which I according did the next day.

Sunday, May, 1755.

Gov. Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1755.

The Bowry, May 2^d, 1755.

Dear Sir:—

I found it absolutely necessary for me to spend this day here, in order to be able to go thro the business necessary to be finished before I left the Province, and I am in hopes to be able to effect the whole, before I leave it, wch I purpose to do at Six to morrow Evening, wch I am told will be in time to reach Maurisis, if we set out then from N. York.

I am concern'd at Jack's telling me, you shall not have time to make a Draft of my Instructions to Col. Johnson, wch is a matter of great Consequence and delicacy, and much more so at hearing your

resolution to leave New York before I shall have an Opportunity of consulting you, and shewing you my own sentim^ts upon it. You are sensible I must dismiss Col. Johnson before I leave this place; and if I might ask that favour of you, I shall be extremely oblig'd to you, if I might have an Opportunity of talking with you upon this point before you go.

In half an hour's time I shall set down to writing, and will come to New York in the Evening, to wait upon you at such time as will best suit your Conveniency.

I am,

Dear Sir,

Your most oblig'd and

obed^t Servant,

W. SHIRLEY.

P. S. I have just now discover'd that a new Obstacle is laid in the way of raising the New York Levies, and I think I must look upon it as the contrivance of ———, &c., &c. I hope you will give me an Opportunity of seeing you before you go.

The Honble Govr Morris.

Indorsed.

Govr Shirley, May 2^d, 1755.

Gov. Morris to Col. Johnson, 1755.

May 3^d, 1755, N. York.

Sir:

As I have not been able, from the Hurry of business you have been engaged in, to speak to you so fully as I would do upon the affair of Lydius's Purchase of Lands in Pensilvania, for some people of Connecticut, I must beg leave to trouble you with this letter upon the head.

You may remember the manner proposed effectually to distroy the Effect of that Clandestine transaction of Lidius, & to prevent the Like for the future, was to envite the Six nations to send deputys to your House, to declare their sense of that deed, and to make an absolute conveyance to the Proprietary of Pensilvania, of all the Lands within the Limits of their grant from the Crown, and M^r. Delancy having some doubts concerning the Northern boundary of M^r. Penn's Grant, I assured him that I proposed to take the deed from the Indians, in the same words with the Kings Grant, having no intention to Extend the Province by an Indian Purchase, further than the Bounds expressed in the Royal Charter would carry it. This I believe has satisfied M^r. Delancy, as he has made no further objection to the proceedings for carrying it therefore into Execution.

I propose, that agreeable to your friendly offer of assistance in this affair, That you should invite Six nations to your House, Either solely upon this subject, or Joyn this invitation with the one you are to send them upon the Public Service, or take no Notice of it in the Invitation as you shall Judge best, & That you will be good enough to let me know the time appointed for their being at your House, that I may send proper Commissioners to transact this matter, under your advice and assistance. Govr Shirley, to whom I have fully communicated this matter is of opinion that the making this Purchase, at the time of your meeting with them upon other matters will be very proper, and not in the least to interfere with the Public service.

As to the consideration I think, besides a sum of money down there must be an annual payment for a certain term of years, to be agreed on at the meeting, in which your advice will have great weight with me and the Persons employed.

I have orders from the Proprietarys of Pensilvania to return you their thanks for the part you have taken in this affair, and to beg the Continuance of your good offices, which you may be assured will meet with the most grateful return from them.

I am, &c.

Indorsed.

Dft Letter to Coll. Johnson, about Lidius's Purchase, and the meeting with the Indians at his House.

2 May, 1755.

Gen. Braddock to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Winchester, May the 4th, 1755.

Sir,

I have receiv'd a Letter from Captain Rutherford at Will's Creek, acquainting me that an open Trade is carry'd on with the French, from Reastown and Aghwick, within your Government, by means of the Indians in their Alliance; That they are thereby supply'd with powder and whatever they have occasion for, & receive all the Intelligence they desire; as it is of the greatest Consequence that this Trade should be immediately suppress'd, I must desire you to use your utmost Endeavours to put an effectual Stop to it.

The inclos'd Copy of a Complaint from one Arthur Delap which I also receiv'd from Captain Rutherford, will show you the insolent & traiterous Behaviour of some of the Inhabitants on the Frontier of your province; Immediately upon my arrival at Will's Creek I shall take 'em into Custody, if you have it in your power to punish 'em with the Severity that their Crime deserves, they shall

be deliver'd into your Hands, if not, I shall find out some method of dealing with 'em myself.

I am, Sir,

Your most Humble &

most Obedient Servant,

E. BRADDOCK.

Indorsed.—General Braddock.

In Council, 12 May, 1755, N. 31.—Copy'd.

Copy of Bond on the Part of Pennsylvania to the King for Arms, &c., 1755.

This Indenture made the fifth day of May in the 29th year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Second, by the Grace of God King of Great Britain, France & Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c., Between his Grace the Duke of Marlborough, Master General of his Majesty's Ordinance, & the principal Officers of the same on the behalf of the Kings most Excellent Majesty on the one part, & James Hamilton and John Mifflin of the City of Philadelphia in the Province of Pennsylvania, Esquires, on behalf of the Government of the said Province on the other part, Witnesseth, That the said James Hamilton & John Mifflin have received out of His Majesty's Stores within the Office of Ordinance at Boston in New England, Six hundred Firelocks, 600 Bayonets, 600 Cartouch boxes, Fifteen barrells of Powder, Three Tuns of Musket Ball & five thousand Flints for the defence of the said Province of Pennsylvania, and hereby Promise on behalf of the said Province to be accountable to the said Master general & principal officers of his Majesty's Ordinance for all the said Arms & Accoutrements, & that the same shall be returned (such only as shall be lost by inevitable accidents in actual Service only excepted,) to His Majesty's Comptroller of the Ordinance in North America, in such place and at such time as shall be appointed by his Excellency, William Shirley, Esqr., Commander in chief of His Majesty's Forces there, or the Commander in Chief of the same for the time being, & that all deficiencies in the said Arms & Accoutrements (except as before is excepted,) shall be made good by the Government of the aforesaid Colony. In Witness whereof, the said James Hamilton and John Mifflin have set their hands and Seals the day and year above mentioned.

JAMES HAMILTON, [L. S.]
JOHN MIFFLIN, [L. S.]

* See Gov'rs answer, Col. Rec., Vol. VI. p. 380--381.

Sealed & delivered in the Presence of
RICHARD PETERS,
Secretary.
JO. TURNER.

Copy.

Indorsed.—5th May, 1755.

Copy, Bond by way of Indenture to his Majesty on receiving Arms, &c.

GEN'L. ASS'Y. OF CONN.—MEMORIAL OF SAML. HAZARD* FOR WESTERN LANDS, 1755.

Anno Regni Regis Georgij 2di 28vo.

At a General Assembly of the Governor and Company of his Majestys English Colony of Connecticut, in New England, in America, holden at Hartford, in said Colony, on the second Thursday of May, Annoque Domini, 1755

WHEREAS, Samuel Hazard of the City of Philadelphia, in the Province of Pensylvania, Merchant, by his Petition or Memorial preferred to the Governor and Company of this Colony, in the Sessions of this present Assembly, hath shown that he hath projected a Scheme for settling a New Colony within his Majestys Dominions, to begin at the distance *one Hundred Miles . . . . westward of the westerly Boundaries of Pensylvania*, and thence to extend One hundred miles to the westward of Missisipi, and to be divided from Virginia and Carolina by the great Chain of Mountains that run along the continent, from the North-East to the South-West parts of America, and hath represented and set forth the ends and motives as well as the general Plan thereof, and that as it is apprehended the said Country or a considerable part thereof is situate and comprehended within the ancient Lines and Boundaries of the Grant made by the Royal Charter given by his late Majesty King Charles the Second, to the Governor and Company of this Colony, in the Year of our Lord, One Thousand six hundred and sixty-two, so there may arise an Objection against his proceeding in so important an undertaking unless the same be removed; And therefore has petitioned this Assembly for a grant or release to him of such Right or Claim as is, or may be supposed to be vested in said Governor and Company, that he might without any Objections from that Quarter make his Humble Application to his Majesty for his Royal Grant and favour in the Premisses for the end and purposes aforesaid, as by the said Memorial and Scheme thereunto annexed, refferance thereto being had may more fully and at large appear.

* Grandfather of the Editor.

Whereupon this Court having taken the matter into their serious consideration, and apprehending the settlement of a Colony in the County aforesaid, with such Limits and Boundaries as his Majesty shall think proper on the plan aforesaid, or in some measure agreeable thereto for the investing and security of the Rights, Properties and Priviledges of the Settlers, will greatly promote his Majestys Interest, secure his Dominions and have a most happy tendancy for the protection and Defence of the British Plantations in America, and be an Eminent means to win and invite the Natives of the Country to the Knowledge and Obedience of the only true God and Saviour of Mankind, and the Christian Faith, and therein answer that which is expressed in the said Royal Charter to be the principal End of this Plantation. Therefore this Court do most humbly Recomend the said Samuel Hazard and those who may undertake with him in this great and important design to his sacred Majesty's gracious Notice and favour, and if it may be consistant with his Royal Wisdome and Pleasure to order and direct the Settlement of a Colony in the said Country or part thereof, and grant unto the said Petitioner and those who shall engage therein, such Lands, Rights, Priviledges and Immunities as his Majesty shall be graciously pleased to determine for the purpose aforesaid. This Court do declare their free consent thereunto, and for promoting so extensive and beneficient design, do freely relinquish and give up to the said Samuel Hazard for himself and in Trust for those concerned, and to be engaged therein, all the Right, Claim or Challenge that is or may be made to such Country or Territory as his Majesty shall Judge proper to settle as aforesaid by the Governor and Company aforesaid or any from them, that no objection or obstruction may arise, be made or suggested against so great Service for our King and Country on Account of such Claim or Right, or by pretence and Colour thereof.

Provided, the Petitioner Obtain his Majesty's Royal Grant and order for settling the said Colony, and proceed therein under and according to such Limitations, Restrictions and Orders as his Majesty shall be pleased to appoint.

A true Copy from the public Records of the State of Connecticut.

Examin'd By

GEORGE WYLLYS, Secret'y.

* This belongs to MSS. Copies from Connecticut, Vol. I., in Secry's. office.

Gen'l Ass'y of Conn., on Petition of Susquehanna Co., 1755.

Anno Regni Regis Georgij 2di 28vo.

At a General Assembly of the Governor and Company of his Majesty's English Colony of Connecticut in New England, in America, holden at Hartford, in said Colony, on the 2d Thursday of May Anno Domini, 1755.

Upon the Petition of Phineas Lyman, Roger Wolcott, Junr., Samuel Gray, Abraham Devenport, Esqr., and others their Associates, to the number of about Eight Hundred and Fifty, known by the Name of the Susquehanna Company, by their Agents George Wyllys, Daniel Edwards, Samuel Talcott, Thomas Seymour and Eliphalet Dyer, representing that this Colony, according to the express Limits of its Royal Charter is in extent from the Naragansett Bay on the East, to the South Sea to the West, and on the Sea Shore on the South to the Line of the Masachusetts Province on the North, that within and towards the western parts of its Limits, are and Time immemorial have been large numbers of the Indian Natives, commonly called the Six Nations, dwelling, improving and claiming a large extent thereof.

That a certain large parcell of such their Claim situate and lying on the Waters of the Susquehanna about Seventy Miles, North and South, and from about Ten Miles East of said River, Extending Westward two Degrees of Longitude, they said Nations finding not necessary for their own use have for very valuable Consideration been induced to relinquish and sell to the said Petitioners, and that some well ordered Plantation in so near a Neighbourhood to said Nations might most likely be a means to Cement and fix them in friendship with his Majesty's Subjects, and that they the said Indian Nations are desirious such Settlement might be promoted and carryed on as being conducive to their Interest and Safety.

And thereupon praying the consent of this Assembly that his Majesty if it be his royal Pleasure, Grant said Lands to the Petitioners and their Associates, thereon to Erect and settle a Colony for the more effectual securing said Indians in his Majesty's Interest and Defence of his Majesty's Dominions in North America, with Liberty of further purchases of said Indians to said purpose as occasion may be.

Resolved by this Assembly that they are of Opinion that the peaceably and Orderly Erecting and carrying on some new and well regulated Colony or Plantation on the Lands abovesaid, would greatly tend to fix and secure said Indian Nations in Allegiance to his Majesty and Friendship with his Subjects, and accordingly hereby manifest their ready Acquiescence therein, if it should be his Majestys Royal Pleasure to Grant said Lands to said Petitioners, and thereupon Erect and Settle a New Colony in such Form and under such

regulations as might be consistant with his Royal Wisdom, and also take leave humbly to recomend the said Petitioners to his Royal Favour in the premisses.

A true Copy from the public Records of the State of Connecticut.

Examin'd By

GEORGE WYLLYS, Secret'y.

In full Testimony to the Truth of the several Copies by me attested, which are contained in this Roll, the public Seal of the State of Connecticut is hereunto affixed at Hartford in said State, this 2d day of October, Anno Dom. 1782.

GEORGE WYLLYS, Secret'y.*

[SEAL.]

Thomas and Richard Penn to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Sir,

It is with the utmost concern we find the House of Representatives refuse to pass such a Bill for raising a Supply to His Majesty, as you can give your assent to: but in a time of so great danger to the publick safety, we think it by no means proper to remain easy under such a refusal, and therefore, do hereby require of you, immediately on the receipt of this, to call the Assembly, and demand of them the most speedy and effectual Supplys, to be applyed as the Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Forces shall direct, and, in case they should refuse and adjourn, you are to call them again immediately, and renew your said demands upon them on the allegiance which they owe to the Crown, and so continue to do, as often as they shall adjourn, without complying with his Majesty's Orders. This you are to acquaint them you do by our express direction, and we desire you will avoid entering into any disputes, and confine yourself to make the necessary demands in the most pressing manner.

We most strictly injoin you to take every method in your power to assist the Common Cause, and as an encouragement to our Tenants, who may be able and willing to serve against his Majesty's Enemys, Let it be immediately notifyed in the most publick manner, that such of them as shall so assist in their own persons, shall hold their Lands free of all Quit Rents for the time of such their respective Service.

* See note on p. 302.

We expect and believe that you will carry these Orders into execution with the utmost zeal, and remain

Your very affectionate Friends,

THO. PENN,
RICH'D. PENN.

London, May 10th, 1755.
Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr.

Directed.—To the Honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia.

Wm. Parsons to R. Peters, 1755.

Easton, May the 10th, 1755.

Sir,

The Lieut^{t} of Capt Parker's Comp^{a} in Coll^{l} Shyler's Regiment has been beating up for Volenteers in this Town and would gladly have taken our Prisoners out of Gaol, who are very willing to go, but as I had not received your answer to my last Letter I could not consent to their enlisting. I am now every Day upon the dry Land and have Tenants ready for the greatest part of the Tracts that are laid out. Please to favour me by a Line or two with what further Instructions the Proprietaries have sent by the last Ship from London concerning the dry Lands. Mr. Chapman is removed with his Family into this County, and I persuade my self he will be of great use in those parts, especially if the Governor should think fit to include him in the Commission of the Peace. I am Sir,

Your obedient,
humble Servant,
WM. PARSONS.

Rich^{d}. Peters, Esqr.

Direction.—To Richard Peters, Esquire, Philadelphia.
By the Favour of Lewis Gordon, Esqr.

Thomas Penn to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Sir,

I write this to take its chance by any Ship for America, to inform you that on Tuesday the Address of the Assembly came on to be heard by Council before the Lords of Trade, when their Council bent the force of their Argument against the King's Instructions, tho' not mentioned in the Remonstrance and spent the greatest part of their time upon that point, they did not shew any particular Instruction from us, or prove that we had given any, or produce any other proof, but relyed on the Address, we on our part denyed we had given any Instruction that was an infringement of the Charter

or of dangerous consequence to the British Interest, insisted on refusing to communicate Instructions to the Assembly, but declared ourselves willing to Lay them before the King and his Ministers privately, if their Lordships were not satisfied with our declaration; the Council that appeared on your part, for we thought it not proper for our Council to say any thing in support of Royal Instructions, pleaded the Royal Instruction, Sr Dudley Ryder's opinion upon it, and the Act of Parliament for the Eastern Governments. I had no reason from what passed to fear a Report in favour of the Assembly, but the next morning I thought it proper to wait upon the Board, to declare the great concern I was under that the Province of Pennsylvania should distinguish itself by a conduct so disobedient to the Royal Command, that I had never given any Instruction to prevent the Assembly's granting supplys to the Crown, on the contrary had given Instructions to you to press them for Supplys, and to do every thing in their power for the common Cause, and that I was ready to shew the Board all the Instructions we had given if they had any doubt remaining or desire to see them. My Lord Hallifax declared that they were fully satisfied with my conduct, had no reason to believe I had given any improper Instructions, and thought I acted a part very much to my own honour in coming to the Board and personally making that declaration, and they would take care to represent it accordingly. They enter'd into Conversation on some part of your proceedings, which we had printed together with the Minutes of the year before, to shew by the several Questions for a Supply, (to which they had subjoined the Names of the Members,) how very zealous they were to comply with the King's Orders, and with regard to the Law for five years in the Eastern Governments. They were of opinion your argument upon it was of very great weight, and I am well satisfied they will report their opinion strongly in favour of it; my Lord Hallifax of himself taking notice that the only reason for not including Pennsylvania in that Act was as the Paper Money of that Province was issued on another foundation, the fund on which it was established was certain, and the ill consequences attending the emissions of the other sorts in the Eastern Governments, not attending it, there was no necessity for restraining us; I have since seen Mr. Paris who has been informed by Mr. Pownal that the Board has ordered a Report to be drawn up in the strongest Terms against the Petitioners, so that there is not the Least doubt but they will be most severely censured.

As this is the case, which we fully expected, We think it absolutely necessary to press the Assembly in season and out of season to grant Supplys, and are advised to it by some very good Friends here, for which purpose you have herewith an order from us to call them together, and make the necessary demands, you have a right to do This, and we desire you will not in the least consider what is said by them and their party on the occasion, for if they will not do what is right the more indecent their behaviour is the better, as it

may be attended with good consequences here, both to the cause and to yourself, whose proceedings are much approved of by the Board of Trade; therefore you will steadily pursue the Business, without suffering yourself to lose your Temper, by the answers you may meet with, and repeat the same to the next Assembly, if it does not act a more dutiful part, not giving up the point you fixed yourself to. I shall write you by all conveyances, and send a Copy of the Report when it comes out. When you write next to give me an account of what you shall do in this Business, inform me what you have done with the Money raised in the Lower Countys. I enclose you a Letter I wrote which should have gone by the last Ships at the desire of my good Friend Mr. West of the Treasury, whose Friend I wish to serve. I am

Sir,

Your very affectionate Friend,

THO. PENN.

London, May 10th, 1755.

I desire you will send for Mr. Peters and Mr. Hockley, and give them your advice about seizing for Arrears of Quit Rent, which I think it is absolutely necessary to do, as the party have thrown out their intention to enter into combinations to oppose our recovering our Rents. I should have told you that Mr. Henley the Council for the Address, told his Clients he would not ask for the sight of our Instructions, the demand being such an one as ought not to be complyed with, which was the general opinion of every body.

P. S. The Letter enclosed herein, and the last by Captain Shade differ a little from the first, and were altered to make them more perswasive, wherefore we desire you will make use of them.

Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr.

Indorsed.—May 10th, 1755, Mr. Penn.

Mr. Peters to William Shirley, Secretary of Gen. Braddock, 1755.

Sir:

I own myself under no small uneasiness at not having received a Line from you. The whiling time, you know, is always a disagreeable one, but the good naturd man, the moment he sees a good Dinner come in, thinks nothing of what is past, but falls to, eats heartily, and if his Entertainer be chearful and affectionate accepts every future Invitation with Pleasure. In this temper I found myself at the close of your Letter, perfected delighted with my Fare, and in high hopes of the continuance of a good Table.

It was an unlucky Incident that I was not come up to the Governors when they sett off from Annapolis. M^r. Franklin and I were indeed desired by our Governor to follow, but then We must

have brought along with Us Heaps of People, who as they were invited by the several Governors, would have expected Civilities, that in such a Place and at such a time, coud not have been convenient, and therefore we thought it best to stay where we were.

Governors Shirley and Morris were pleased to tell me, that I was depended upon for Intelligence of the situation of Indian affairs on the Ohio, and desired me to muster up all my Knowledge of this sort in order to communicate it, if asked, to the Council, and as Indian Business seems to me to have been little understood, and not enough attended to by the Government of Virginia, I believe I could have been of some Service.

By a Letter I have seen from Capt. Rutherford, no Indians have been employed as Scouts and Messengers to the several Tribes of Indians living beyond the Ohio, which I am surprised at, as this shoud have been taken care of the moment Govr Dinwiddie was furnished with the means; it is true, these Services consume a great deal of money, and those who are at first employd will some of them deceive, but money ought not to be spared, & tho some would have proved unfaithful, yet others woud not, but have detected the false ones & supplied better in their stead.

Bribery, among the Indians no more than among the French, is not deemed a crime, but a mark of respect, and a proof that you know their Importance, & whoever neglects it is impolitic & will suffer.

I have been led into a mistake by imagining, that Govr Dinwiddie had laid a Scheme to procure a meeting at Winchester between the Southern & Northern Indians, & that such of the Chiefs of the several Nations that were known to be well affected to the English, had been previously engaged to attend this meeting.

Certainly some general meeting was necessary and expected by the Indians, that both they and We might see what number were for and what against the French Encroachments, & in case it shoud have appeared that a majority was on the Side of the French, then it might have been prudent to have tried to bring the Indians over to a general neutrality—and it is the opinion of M^r. Weiser, our Indian Interpreter, and my own, that this could have been effected, and would have saved the General an immense Trouble, & the Crown an heavy expence.

But as matters now stand, and the General is already now on his march, I know no better method than that you are in, namely, to employ M^r. Croghan, M^r. Montour, M^r. Frazier, and others, who have influence over the Indians, & must certainly know their dispositions, and try to get as many as you can; tho I have very poor hopes, because tho the Indians have been maintained at a great expence by this Province, and have during the whole Winter been passing between the French Camp, & their Place of Residence at Aucquick, yet they have brought no material Information, and declined, if not refused, to attend the Comm^rs to survey the country, in order to find out good Places for Roads.

At the opening of this Spring I expected Mr. Croghan would have received answers from the Twightwees, Owendats, Piankishaws, and other Tribes of Western Indians, to whom this Government had sent Messages in the Fall, but if he has received their answers he has not communicated them, & perhaps does not chuse to do it till he comes to the Camp. Some of these Indians will certainly be with the army, at least to watch your motions and observe whether you are likely to succeed, and if so, to strike in when they can assure themselves of Safety.

Within two days after our Governors Return from Alexandria, an Express was dispatched to Mr. Croghan, with Messages to all the Tribes of Indians with whom this Province has an Intercourse, to repair forthwith to the General and receive his Orders, and I make no doubt but every thing was dispatched in the very quickest manner.

By Mr. Evans's map, which he has enclosed in this Packet to you, the Country to the West of Ohio will, I think, be pretty well known, at least, well enough for your present Use. It will immediately occur to you that Shippensburgh, not Will's Creek, woud have been the most convenient Place for the Camp, as well on acco^t of health & Provisions, as nearness of Situation & Roads over the mountains, plentiful Supplies are to be had there, and you would have been as near your Place of destination, and have saved the Expence of Carriage, which is almost as much as the Price of the Provisions.

Sir Wm. Pepperel has only two companies of one hundred men, and eight more of 26 private men each, but as his officers have had pretty good Success in recruiting in this Province, I hope he will soon compleat his Regiment.

It is a terrible misfortune that the arms are not arrived from England at Boston, since the Forces are ready to embark for Nova Scotia, and purely detaind on that account.

The French have no doubt heard of the Eastern designs, & will not, I think, venture to part with any of their Force to the Ohio.

By not receiving any advices from England, it looks as if there were Negotiations for an amicable Accommodation of differences between the two Courts, and that you may be employed to receive peaceable possession of the Ohio.

They have News at New York, by Way of St. Augustine, that the English are cut off in the Honduras & their Vessels taken, & that all trade is knocked on the head; if this be true, the King of Spain is not so much our Friend as his Majesties Speech woud make believe.

Mr. Franklin has had excellent Success, & I suppose you may have not only Waggons enough, but single Horses, and then your march over the Hills will be pleasant—dont take your notions of the country from that dismal inhospitable Place, Will's Creek—The farther you advance the more Grass you will find, and a finer country.

I am the most concerned about the Roads, but Sir John Sinclair may pretend what he pleases, he wrote to the Governor about it for the first time in February, & by his order I went immediately with the Letter to the Speaker, who said it would be time enough to consider this Matter when the House met, & tho the Lower Counties another Government, under Mr. Morris, had given a thousand Pounds, yet the Speaker, who is joined with the Governor in the disposition of that money was absent, as far as the Capes, upon Business, that is 150 miles off, and did not return till the 10th March, & on the twelfth, after conferring with him, the Govr issued his Commission for the Survey of the Roads.

Whatever comes to my Knowledge that will yield any Intelligence or Entertainment will be communicated by all opportunities, & We shall want to hear from you as much as you can from Us.

My Prayers are for the General and all under him, that they may reap Glory and enjoy Health.

I am, Sir,

Your most humble Servant,

RICHARD PETERS.

Philad^a, 12th May, 1755.

Indorsed.

Copy—Lre to Mr. Wm. Shirley, Secry of General Braddock.
12 May, 1755.

Wm. Shirley to Gov'r Morris, 1755.

Dear Morris,

It is with ye utmost difficulty I ever find time to write a Line to you. The Genl. wrote you four days ago by Mr. Leslie, in wch I doubt not, you will give w^t assistance you can. This goes by an Express to Franklin of your Province, who has been of ye greatest Service in procuring Horses & Waggons for ye Forces. He has already done much, but we are oblig'd to have recourse to him for further Assistance, and doubt not you will help him if he has any occasion for you. Inclos'd is a Receipt belonging to Mr. Alexander, wch I ought to have deliver'd to you at Alexandria. We shall stay here I imagine, a fortnight longer, tho' we shall go as soon as is possible for us. If you can send me any Acc^t of ye Situation of Military Affairs to ye Northward, I beg you would let me have it.

I can only add that

I am,

Dear Morris,

Most Sincerely y^rs,

W. SHIRLEY.

I can but honour Franklin, for ye last clause of his Advertisem^{ts}.

Wills's Creek, May 14, 1755.

Direction.

To the Honble Robt. Hunter Morris, Esqr, Lieut^{nt} Governor of Pensilvania, at Philadelphia.

Gov. Morris to Thomas Penn, 1755.

May 15, 1755.

Sir,

I have just time to tell you by a ship that sails this day for Bristol, that Genl. Braddock is march'd for Fort Cumberland and proposes to leave it early in next month, before which it will be impossible to subsist his Horses, and then the grass in the woods will be in forwardness for that purpose.

I am opening a road from Shippensburg, westward to the Forks of the Yohiagany and to Fort Cumberland, which I hope to have finish'd by the time they will be wanted, as there are now a hundred men at work, and I have sent Mr. Peters up with orders to employ as many more as He thinks necessary. The Committee of the Assembly, have engaged that the Assembly will be at the Charge of opening these roads, but if they should not, Genl. Braddock has promis'd to repay me. There are one hundred & fifty waggons and about six hundred Horses, gone from this province to the army, the hire of which the Genl is to pay.

In addition to the operations mentioned to you in my last, it was agreed at the Congress which was held at Alexandria, That Govr. Shirley, with his own and S^{r} W^{m}. Pepperill's regiment, should attempt the reduction of the French fort at Niagara, to facilitate which, and to secure the navigation of the Lake Ontario, there are two schooners to be built upon it, and Sawyers and Carpenters, with Smith's Iron and all the necessarys are already sent to Oswego for that purpose.

The Government of New York, from what Cause I know not, are very backward in their preparations for the Crown point Expedition, for tho' it is now seven weeks since the Assembly resolved to take part in that enterprise & to raise 800 men for that purpose, nothing is yet done, neither the men raised, the battoes built, nor the Train of Artillery prepared.

Mr. Allen and some others, concerned in the Gap Mine in which you are interested, are inclinable to go to work upon it again; they think and so do I, that it may be worked to advantage by the Help of a fire Engine, one of which, the Schuylers at a very great ex-

pence have erected at their mine. I think also, that the Vitriol water, with which I am told that mine abounds, may be turn'd to account. If you do not incline to be concern'd in this undertaking yourself, I will buy or lease, the whole or a part of your Share, and beg you will give Mr. Peters directions about it, as I am now in treaty for some small shares, which will not be worth holding unless I have some others.

I shall write you fully by Mesnard, who will sail in about a week.

Inclosed you have the survey of the roads as they are returned to me by the Comm^rs I have Employ'd upon that Service, & I have only time to Assure you that

I am, &c.,

Philad'a, May 15, 1755.

P. S. Coll^l Peter Schuyler with 500 men raised in N. Jersey, is to go under Govr. Shirley to the attack of Niagara.

Indorsed.

Dft to Mr. Penn, May 15, 1755.

Sent by the Catherine, Capt. Moncriep to Bristoll, put on board at Chester by Billy.

May 19th, 1755, } Sent by
Made Duplicate. } Cap^n. Lyon.

Robert Orme to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Dr Sir:

The Bearer, Capt Airs, is the Gentlemen appointed by the General Engineer to Col^l. Johnson, he has seen Service, which made his Excellency desirous of sending him. He joined us this day only, from an out Party.

The General begs the favor of you to give him all Assistance in

* This mine is near the "Gap" in Lancaster Co., and the operations which had been discontinued, have been resumed under the auspices of a Company chartered by the Legislature, April 8, 1851. See laws 1851, p. 369. This mine "was discovered by a German, named Tersey, in or before 1732," and a grant of land made by John Penn to Gov. Hamilton and others, and "an account of the Copper Springs lately discovered in Pennsylvania, by Jno. Rietty, M. D., was in 1756, communicated by P. Collinson to the Philosophical Society of London." Vol. 4, part 2, page 648. They were worked for a few years, but owing to the want of an engine to free them from water, the operations were discontinued. In 1797, proposals were issued in a pamphlet for forming a Company to work mines in the U. S., by B. Henfrey, and amongst them, this mine. It is in a Volume in the Philadelphia Library, No. 9125, and has lately been reprinted by those interested in the mine. It will be seen by Mr. Penn's reply to this letter, July 2, that he was unwilling to sell his share, but would rent it.

forwarding of him to New York, as the Time is pressing. Our Sincere and good Friend Shirley desires his Service, and I am,

Dr Sir,

Yr most obedt & humble Sevt,

ROBT. ORME.

Will's Creek,
May 17th.
To the Honble Govr Morris.

Indorsed.—May 17th, 1755. Robert Orme.

R. Peters to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Honoured Sir:

I am got so far on my Road, and fortunately met with Mr. Armstrong, who informs me that there are but sixty working on the Road, that no other Commissrs is there but Mr. Burd, who is not, one may well suppose, equal to such a Task, tho' a very good man, & well disposed; it will be, therefore, necessary to assemble the Commissrs and the members of the County to advise what to do, for at the rate they go on, & Mr. Burd does his best, they will not finish this Six months, seven miles being only cut in ten days, and the Expence will be considerable each man reckoning his Provisions & other necessaries, will stand in five shillings ℔ day.

Pray write to Mr. Shippen to engage what hands he can & send them up, & take what measures shall appear best to engage more, for this County is exhausted 200 having inlisted, and others in one branch or other of the publick business. I beg a full Letter from your honour empowering me to do what shall appear necessary, in conjunction wth Comrs & members of Assembly who, I think with Mr. Francis West, should be joyn'd to ye Comrs.

I am
Your Honour's
Most obedient
humble Servt,
RICHARD PETERS.

Shippensburg,
Saturday Even.,
17 May, 1755.

Indorsed.—May 17th, 1755. Richd Peters.

Wm. Alexander & L. Morris to Gov. Shirley, 1755.

New York, May 17th, 1755.

May it please Your Excell'y:

Capt Hood, in the Jamaica Sloop-of-War, arrived here the 13th Inst., from Virginia, with officers for the two Vessels to be built at Osweego, sent by Commodore Keppel, with sundry stores, a List of which Your Excell'y has here inclosed, by which you will observe that there is Canvas but no sails made, as we have not the dimensions of the Masts & Yards, and know not whether they are to be Schooners, Suows or Gallys. I consulted with Capt Owen, who is to have the Commodore, who agreed with me that it was necessary for the Service to send to your Excellency for directions relating to the Sails, that they may be made. As there are no Seamen to come from Virginia, shall be glad of your Excellency's Orders, if they are to be procured here, what Encouragement we must give them, being apprehensive that no Sailor will go from hence for the same pay they have in his Majesties Navy. Many Stores and necessarys will be wanted for both Vessels, which are not come from Virginia, nor are they noted in the List which Your Excellency delt. Mr. Alexander shall expect your Excellency's directions whether we are to procure such things as Capt Owen will require of us for that Service. Mr. Alexander set out for Albany on Monday last to Forward the Battoes, and to dispatch the Workmen, procure Pease and Carriages. We have sent from hence two Smiths, seventeen Carpenters, Eight Sawyers, one Millwright and one Wheelwright: if your Excellency thinks it necessary to send more Workmen from hence, they shall be sent on the first notice. Most of the Articles Your Excellency Ordered us to procure are purchased, or Tradesmen employed to make them. We have bought 300 Barrels Pork and 300 Barrels Beef, 500 of which are already gone to Albany with the Cordage sent from Philadelphia, a list of which is Inclosed. About 100,000 weight of Bread We have Ordered to be bought at Philadelphia to be sent round, as we found our Bakers advanced the Price, so high it would come Cheaper from thence. Capt Broadstreet was not detained a Moment by us. We furnish'd him with every Article your Excellency ordered us to purchase for him. The Powder from Virginia We have ordered into the Powder house here, apprehending it dangerous to send it to Albany before the Officers and Men go up, the Canvass we have also landed here, all the other articles will this day be sent to Albany. Will it not be expedient that a Party of Sir Willm Pepperel's Regiment be ordered to Guard Capt Owen with the Officers and Stores for the Navy to Osweego, if so Your Excellency will be pleased to give your directions accordingly.

I am for W. A. & self, &c.,

L. M.

New York, May 24th, 1755.

May it please Your Excell'y:

I did myself the Honour to write Your Excell'y the last Post, and on the 20th received your favour of the 14th by Express, on Receipt of which I furnished Barbeen with a Fresh Horse for Philadelphia, with your Excellrs Packet, and have wrote the Commissioners there not to send any Beef round. We have received from thence 399 Barrels Bread, 90 barrels Pork, 50 Hogsheads of Rum, 116 Barrels Meal, and 26 Barrels Beef, which is all sent to Albany addressed to Mr. Moses Emerson. In his absence, to Robert Saunders, Esqr, by order of the Commissioners at Philadelphia. If any more Beef should come we shall observe Your Excell'y Orders by disposing of it, and advising Your Excell'y thereof. Mr. Owen and Mr. Bradley, the Gentl. appointed by Commodore Keppel to Command the Vessels to be built, have been with me to know how they are to be furnished with Money, to pay the Maintenance of themselves and other officers & Servants, ten in Number, during there stay here, if it be Your Excellencys pleasure that we supply them & Charge it to the Navy Account, it shall be obeyed. We are getting every thing ready with the utmost speed.

I am, Sir, &c.,

for Alexr & self.

L. M.

Indorsed.—May 17 & 24th, 1755. Copy Letters Lewis Morris to Govr Shirley.

Inclosed in Mr. Alexrs Lre of the 9th June.

Richard Peters to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Shippensburg, 18 May, 1755.

Sir:

I desir'd James Armstrong to write to you and as he is perfectly acquainted with ye whole affair of the Roads, his Information & Sentiments will be sufficient for you to proceed upon. Perhaps a new Commissioner will not be necessary, & may breed Confusion. I shall send an Express if necessary after seeing men on the Spot, or at least send a Letter to Carlisle to go by the next Post.

I hear one half of the Horses from the County of York are poor & unfit for Service & will be rejected.

Sr. Jno. St. Clair went to discover a new Road, but finding none returned to the General, and they concluded to take the old Road to the Meadows.

I shall not wait on the General till I have settled the matter of the Roads, wch will take me three days at least.

I hear but a poor Account of the Indians of this Province. Callender says he met Jno Gist's son in his Return from Carolina, & he brings an account that 4 or 500 Southern Indians will engage with and assist General Braddock, but I doubt.

I am
Your Honour's
most obedient
humble Servant,
RICHARD PETERS.

I am at a loss where a Letter will find me. I believe the Camp is the likeliest place, where I propose to be some time this week, & to stay if convenient.

Directed.

To the Honourable Morris, Esquire, Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

Indorsed.—May 18th, 1755. Richd Peters.

Gov. Morris to the Commitee, 1755.

Philada., May 19th, 1755.

Gentn.:

I herewith send you a letter I receivd on Fryday last, from Genl Braddock, desiring my assistance to Mr. Leslie, who he has sent into this Province to Purchase a quantity of Oats for the use of the Army under his command, part of which he tells me, he has given directions to contract for in the back countys. I cannot but think it will be for the Honour of the Province, to furnish the forage wanted, and therefore recommend the thing to you, and desire you will let me know what you do in this affair, that I may govern myself accordingly, as to the Genls request, to supply Mr. Leslie with money. I am,

Gentn,
Your Humble Servt.*

To Isaac Norris, Evan Morgan,
Joseph Fox, Esqrs, and others,
Committees of the Assembly
of Pensilvania.

Indorsed.

Coppy to the Committee, May 19th, 1755. No. 41.

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. VI., p. 394.

Wm. Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Fort Cumberland, May 21, 1755.

Dear Morris:

The General writes to my father by this opportunity, approving of his taking Col. Schuyler & ye Jersey Forces under his own particular command; also to Mr. Belcher acquainting him therewith.

You have wrote very properly to the General, with regard to ye Road to ye Yaughyanghani, & set your Conduct in a very fair light, & such an one, as at least, cannot deserve censure. I am persuaded Sr John will not be in an Hurry in making Representations to Eng^ld. He has receivd from ye Genl, what is calld, in ye Language of ye Camp, a *Set down* upon this Affair. Tho' I must inform you, that you might, thro' his means, have rece'd a Letter, (unreasonable as it would have been,) very disagreeable to you, had it not been for ye Interference of your Friends here; In w^ch, however, I think there was Friendship shown, rather to ye writer of the Letter, than yourself.

I inclose you a Subscription for Mr. Evans's Map taken as you will see instantly upon my Receipt of it, & will be answerable to you for ye payment. I cannot possibly write to him now, but am much oblig'd to him for it. It is owing to my Hurry of Business that there are not many more Names to it. I may very probably send em before we move from hence.

I cannot at present, find your last Letter to me, nor recollect ye whole of it. I shall write to you again before we go. Orme always desires his sincerest Regards to you. It is not easy to give you a picture of ye Business we do, or of ye manner in wch it is done. I do not look upon it to be always transacted in y^r most masterly way, but considering all Circumstances, believe it may have its merit. I have wrote a Letter for the Genl to Govr De Lancey, wch is not of ye ceremonious kind. I think he deserves it, and believe he will not be at all troubled at receiving it. I have form'd an opinion of that man, wch is so much ye worse, as I look upon him, to have abilities.

I have been told you want nothing to carry all points you can desire in your Gov^ts, but Condescension to your people; that you ever propose to 'em what is reasonable & right, but don't take sufficient pains to convince 'em it is so. I never will hear a possibility of your being to blame without telling you of it. In this case, you know me better, than to imagine, I conclude you are so. But till you tell me you are not, I will venture to tell you, y^t you possibly may Recollect only that men of superior sense have a great deal to answer for, and Fools are ye Creatures for whom they are accountable. These have a strict Right to receive from men of sense, ye Benefit of accidental advantages, wch Providence has unequally distributed. They are, besides, entitled to Compassion, more so, than the poor Man is, who asks you for your Money, for he may probably

be destitute thro' his own fault. I shall say no more; you must excuse me, if my Love for you, makes me ever jealous of your Character.

I had forgot to observe, that if ye 800 Men from New York, are not raised, Johnson's Expedition may be disappointed. However, ye other is ye Attempt of most importance, and I think ye Disposition of Schuyler & his Forces must be right. I am,

Dear Morris,

Most Affectionately,

Yours,

W. SHIRLEY.*

Orme's Complim^ts.

Conrad Weiser to Sec'y Peters, 1755.

Sir:

My Son Sammy, is coming to you with two Indian Boys, the Sons of Jonathan Gayienquiligoa, a noted Mohawk, that can read and write in his Language, well-known to you; he is Poor, and Prays that you, with the Gentlemen Managers of the Academy, will teach them to Read and write in English, and to provide Necessaries of Life for them, during their Stay in Philadelphia, which will be as long as it will require Time to teach them. That the bigest of them is a very Intelligiable Boy, and good-natured; the other is not so, but more of an Indian, and something cross, as his Father says. If you could prevail with Mr. Heintzelmann, my Son-in-Law, for a few weeks to Bord with him, it would be agreeable to the Lads, because my Daughter is somewhat used to the Indians, and understands here & there a Word; then afterwards, you can put them where you Please. The bigest, his Name is Jonathan, and the others Name is Philip. I believe their Father will let them stay long enough to learn the English to Perfection, provided, proper Care is taken of them, which I hope, wont be wanting.

Jonathan wanted me to go to Philadelphia with the Boys, but I thought Sammy could do as well. The Indians on Susquehannah are Starving, and have almost nothing to Eat, because the Deers are Scarse. He thought to have had an answer before now, concerning their Petition to the Governor for some Provision, and the Fencing in of a Corn Field.

French Margret, with some of her Family, is gone to the English Camp in Virginia, and her Son Nicklaus is gone to Ohio, to the French Fort. I suppose they want to join the strongest Party, and are gone for Information. The Indians that are with the French on Ohio, are chiefly Anakunkis, Neighbours to New England, and

* Son of Gov. S.

neither they, nor the Rest, (I can't learn their Number,) will be true to the French, as they give out to our Indians. The other Indians on Ohio, think our Troops march too slow. They say they will be glad to see the French drove away from Ohio. This Report was brought by one of Jonathans Sons, from Ohio; he was not in the French Fort; he was afraid of coming nigh it, but the Indians thereabout have told him so.

I wrote to the Governor last week about the Indians Petition; I hope he has received my Letter. The Indians should have an answer. What can I say to them without having it from the Governor or Assembly? and they are continually plagueing me for an answer, which I hope you will send, if you can, by this opportunity. I have nothing to add, but am,

Sir,

Your most humble Servant.

Heidelberg, May the 19th,
1755.

P.S.—Tachnechdorus, sent word by Jonathan for me to Come up to Shomockin, that the Indians had something of Importance to lay before me.

I understood since, by Jonathan, that several messages had arrived at Otsuacky, from the English army or Virginia, (as was said,) with strengs of Wampum to forwarn the Indians on Susquehana, not to Come nigh the army, for fear of being taken for French Indians, and to stay where they are.

Directed.

To Richard Peters, Esquire, Secretary to the Government of Pensilvania, in Philadelphia.

Indorsed.

Conrad Weiser, 19 May, 1755.

Committee to the Gov., 1755.

May it Please the Governor,

The money put into the hands of the Committee of Assembly, (to whom the Governor is pleas'd to direct his letter,) for the purchase of Provisions and other necessaries for the service of the King's Troops, is all laid out, and expended agreeable to the Trust reposed in them. And we have no Power over any other Publick money, nor can procure any, as the Assembly is risen and gone home. But if the Governor approves of it, We are willing, as private persons, to advance the money that may be necessary on this Occasion, as well as to use our Endeavours to have Forage purchas'd & carried to Will's

Creek from time to time, as it may be wanted, upon the most reasonable terms that can be obtain'd: Not doubting but that General Braddock will duly reimburse us.

Philad^a 19th 5th mo., (May,) 1755.

JAM^S. PEMBERTON,
ISAAC NORRIS,
JOS: FFOX,
JOSEPH STRETCH,
B. FRANKLIN,
WM. CULLENDER,
PETER WORRALL.

Indorsed—

Letter from the Committee to the Governor. No. 42.

MINUTES OF A MEETING NEAR THE SUGAR CABINS, 1755

At a Meeting near the Sugar Cabbins, in Auckquick, on Tuesday, the 20th May, 1755.

Present:

MR. JOHN ARMSTRONG,
MR. JAMES BIRD,
MR. JOHN SMITH,
MR. WM. BUCHANAN,
MR. JOSEPH ARMSTRONG,
MR. RICHARD PETERS.

M^r. Peters opened his Business, telling the Gent^n y^t ye Lre. to ye Govr from ye Com^rs only arrived on Friday, late at night, 9th Instant. The Govr arrived ye same night, & on Saturday Morn ye Lres. were read, and it was concluded y^t ye Secry shou'd go to ye place where ye Roads are opening, see what is doing & what is wanted, confer wth them & wait on the General.

The Roll called over Morning & Evening:

108 Workmen, besides ye Overseers & Waggoners & their Overseer.

M^r. Peters found them 10 miles from Anthony Thompson's, wch is from Shippensburg 28 miles—in all 38.

Roads in common 30 feet wide.

Considered w^r they shou'd carry the same breadth. Resolved, NC., y^t for Expedition sake ye Roads may be run 20 feet wide, & in stony & marshy Places 10 feet wide—& if found necessary to be made wider on the return, after consulting ye General.

What Methods must be taken to procure more hands?

Mentioned y^t ye General be apply'd to, to know if he can spare any of his people,* Pioneers, &c., but at wonst fresh advertisements to issue, & if possible ye Govr to use compulsion—none to serve less y^n 2 weeks, & all to be taken in y^t will serve more.

No workman to be asked to inlist,

* See page 316.

Whether as they proceed they can wth safety do it without proper force, and if it is thought not, & y^t^ ye General be wrote to.

What number of Comm^rs^?

The Health of ye People. Fresh Meat or something. Chocolate, Tea, Coffee, Sugar, Wine, Rum, Spades, Bread, Bisket, Axes.

Men to be sent to Sideling Hill.

A Second sort for Overseers.

New Com^rs^ { M^r^. W^m^. Smith, near Justice Allisons. One of ye Com^rs^ of ye County.
M^r^. Francis West, of Carlisle.
M^r^. John Byars, nigh Arch: M'Alister's.

Jno. Armstrong & M^r^. Buchanan declared they cou'd not Continue in the Service. Considered who to name in their Places, and M^r^. Francis West, M^r^. W^m^. Smith, & M^r^. Jno. Byers were thought ye properest people.

What Sum will it take to finish ye Business?

Baggs, Stilyards, Bread or Biskets?

James Lindsay, rec^r^ of Provisions.

Indorsed—

Proceedings of R. Peters with Com^rs^ for Opening Roads at ye Sugar Cabbins.

W. Shirley to R. Peters, 1755.

Dear Sir,

I can do little more at present than return you many Thanks for your Letter by M^r^. Franklin. I could have wish'd it had happen'd to have been in your Power to have accompanied ye Govr to Alexandria, as I am perswaded you would have given us great Assistance, I am not greatly acquainted myself with Indian Affairs, tho' enough to see that better Measures with regard to 'em might & ought to have been taken; at least to ye Southw^d^. As things are now a Neutrality is out of ye question: ab^t^ 50 from ye Frontier of y^r^ Prov^e^ will go wth us; also Croghan & Montour, who assure us that a considerable Number will join us here or follow us.

Croghan tells me he has yet had no Answer from ye Twightwees, &^c^, but is in daily expectation of it; I dare say your Conjectures with regard to the Conduct they will observe are not mistakes. We were made to believe at Williamsburg that ye Catawbees would certainly be with us; but I am afraid we have been deceived. Croghan rec^d^ three days ago a Belt of Wampum & Speech from Col. Johnson for ye Six Nations & their Allies in these parts, wch we hope may have good effects. Upon our Arrival at this Fort, we found Indian Affairs so ignorantly conducted by Col. Innes, to whom they were

committed, that, Novices as we were, we have taken 'em into our Managem^{t}. It is not for me to remark what might or what ought to have been done for ye Security of ye Gen^{ls} Success, or for his Ease in conducting ye present Expedition, (as it is call'd) in ye most effectual manner for ye Purposes intended by it. Here we are & I imagine shall move from heare in ab^{t} a fortnight. The Difficulties wch have unavoidably attended our Motions, & such as have been occasioned thro' Ignorance in some & Insolence in others are innumerable; with ye Assistance we have had from M^{r}. Franklin, who is almost ye only Person to whom ye Genl is indebted for either Waggons or Horses, we hope to get over ye Mountains, and, I think with you, are not to expect much Opposition from ye French on ye other side of 'em. I shall be impatient to learn ye Event of ye several Northern Attempts, particularly ag^{t} Niagara ; They must, I imagine, be look'd upon as of ye greatest Importance, and if they succeed, will put it in ye Power of ye Gov^{mts} here properly supported from home, effectually to curb ye growing Power of ye French upon this Continent. Govr. Morris has taken very sensible & proper Notice of S^{r}. J. S^{t}. Clair's Behaviour to him in his Letter to ye Genl. S^{r}. John begins to find that he has mistaken himself, & to draw in his Horns.

I shall be much oblig'd to you for ye Correspondence you promise me, particularly for Information with regard to ye progress or Event of Affairs to ye Northward, and am,

Sir,

Your most Humble

and Obed^{t} Servant,

W. SHIRLEY.

Fort Cumberland, May 21, 1755.

Direction—

"To Richard Peters, Esqr.,

"Secretary of the Province of Pensilvania."

Admiral E. Boscawen to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Sir:

This Accompanys a letter from Sr Thomas Robinson, one of his Majesty's principal Secretarys of State, which will perfectly inform you with the Nature of my Orders, and the reasons for ordering me with a Squadron of his Majesty's Ships under my Command on this Coast.

I have for the present fixed my Cruizeing Station of Cape Breton, but shall always keep a Small Cruizer at Halifax, in Nova Scotia, ready to Sail upon any intelligence you may have to Communicate

to me, and flatter my Self your Zeal for His Majesty's Service will prompt you to give me the most early information of the Transactions of the French, either by Sea or Land, and beg leave to aSure you, that I shall be very ready to give the Collony wherein you Command, all the Assistance in my Power.

I am, Sir,

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant,

E^D. BOSCAWEN.

His Majesty's Ship Torbay,
at Sea, May 23d, 1755.

Indorsed.

Adm^l Boscawen, with Letter from Sec^ry Robinson, and Informing me that He should Cruize off Louisburg, but should Station a frigate at Halifax. Rec'd from Virginia, Sepr 1st, 1755. Read in Council, 2d 7ber, 1755.

James Stevenson to R. Peters, 1755.

Dear Sir:

I did acknowledge the Receipt of your favours of the 22d March, which I rec'd by Jemmy, and gave it to him to be delivered to you when he arrived at Philad^a; But Either out of his own Inclination or by the Advice of his Friends at New York, he is put under the care of D^r. Johnson, so he sent back your Letter to me.

According to your Directions I kept Coll^o Johnson and Mr. Claus's Letters, till fifteen Days ago I had an opportunity to deliver them to the Coll^o on his Return from Alexandria.

Mr. Claus came yesterday to Town with Mr. Ogelvie. But after all the Inquiry we can make about the affair of Lydius, The only Information we can gett is, that one Jacobus Sharpe Says he saw three Indians of the five Nations Sign an Instrument to which there were many Marks of Ind^ns before; That he supposes it to be a Deed for Lands which at that time was much talk'd off to have been purchased by Lydius for New England. But the Instrument was neither read, Interpreted, or explained to them in his hearing; That Lydius's Son Martinus was the other Evidence.

Another Person, Jacob van Woert, Says he saw Schoroneados sign an Instrument, but knows not what it was; The Paper was folded from the Top, that it covered the Writing; That Lydius spoke to the Indians in their own Language, which he did not understand, and there was no Interpreter present; He, as well as Sharpe, believes it to be a Deed for Lands, purchased by Lydius for the New England, but Lydius did not tell him so.

There has been one Woodbridge here about three Weeks ago, He belongs to Massachusetts' Bay Government, but freely owned to me that he was Concerned with the Connecticute People in the purchase made by Lydius, which, as I understand, was by order of Connecticute Government, But said he was sure the Lands purchased did not come near Pennsylvania Line by many Miles, for he himself had traversed all those Woods; He said there were some People, (whom he called Separatists,) that he was not concerned with; where they purchased or intended to settle he knew not.

He told me likewise that he gave Directions to Mr. Lydius to take in some few people here for a share, and the 7 dollars given were only by way of Earnest, to intitle them to have a Share after the Lands shall be secured to Connecticute Government.

I told Mr. Woodbridge, that I thought he had better apply to you if he had an Inclination to obtain a Right to Lands there; He said he sometimes had such thoughts, but could not think the Lands were within your Line, and was also afraid your Terms would be to high, But if he was convinced that the Lands were comprehended within your Lines, he would have nothing to do with them.

I am greatly obliged to you for the Care you took of my Son while at Philad^a, which I shall ever gratefully acknowledge, and shall be glad of your Commands if it be any Way in my Power to serve you here. I gave Mr. Claus £6 yesterday.

Mr. William Alexander came here last Saturday; has been at Schonectady this three Days past; I expect him home to Day. We are busy sending Workmen, Provisions, and Warlike Stores to Oswego. It is like to be a Busy Summer this Way. May God give Success to the Expeditions. I am of Opinion our Safety or Destruction depends on the Event of the present Expedition; I hope you will pardon this Scroll, being pretty much hurried.. I am, with tender of Service at all times, and with great Respect,

Dear Sir,

Your most humble Servant.

JA. STEVENSON.

Albany, 23d May, 1755.

To Richard Peters, Esqr,
at Philadelphia.

(Copy.) Gov. Morris to R. Peters, 1755.

Dear Sir:

I had your favours by yesterday's post, and am obliged to you for the trouble you have had about the road, which I am sorry to find is not in greater forwardness. I have order'd Advertisements to be printed in Dutch and English, inviting labourers to go upon that service, who are to enter themselves with Mr. Shippen at Lancaster, and thence to proceed to the road where the Commissioners or overseers must enter the time of their begining to work, that the Publick may not be imposed upon.

You will Continue to give directions in this affair; and I do hereby empower you to Appoint such persons, and to give such Orders and Instructions to those I have Appointed, or those you shall Appoint, as you may Judge best for his Majesty's service.

I send this under cover to Shirley, to be deliver'd you if at the Camp, if not, to be returned Hither. I have wrote to Mr. Shirley all that is done and doing to the northward, which he will communicate to you. We have no news in town, only that Dick Hill is dead, and so is Dr. Morris of this place.

I am, Dr Sir,
Your Most Affectionate
Friend and Servt,
ROBT. H. MORRIS.

Philada., May 23d, 1755.

Directed.—To Richard Peters, Esqr.
These.

Robert Orme to Gov. Morris, 1755.

My dear Governor:

Amongst other Instances of your Friendship, I thank you for my Introduction to Mr. Peters. I am not surpris'd at your high Opinion of him. Souls congenial will unite. He is an amiable, sensible, good Man, seems to love us and regards his Majesty's Service. He will not add a little to the Pleasures I conceive of my Winter Quarters; believe me, my dear Morris, I upon a young Acquaintance honor'd you, and our common friend Shirley has confirm'd my Affection. I am hurried to death, and want the Refreshments of Philadelphia, adieu.

I am most sincerely yrs,
ROBT. ORME.

Indorsed.—May 24, 1755, Mr. Orme, by Mr. Peters. No. 50.

(Copy of Letter.) Gov. Shirley to Gov. De Lancey, 1755.

Boston, May 26th, 1755.

Sir:

Mr. Fitch, of this place, having accidentally informed me this day, that when he was in Company with Mr. Oliver De Lancey at Hartford, he heard him attribute his not having succeeded in obtaining permission to raise the whole number of 500 Men for the Government of New York within the Colony of Connecticut, to my having made some opposition to it there; I find myself under the necessity of troubling you with a fourth Letter by this Express.

Upon talking with Govr. Fitch at Hartford on Friday Evening, I enquired among other matters discours'd on between us, what Success your application to him for raising 500 Men for the Expedition to Crown Point within his Government had with the Assembly, and upon his letting me know that a Committee had it under consideration, I ask'd him whether he thought if those 500 Men should be rais'd in his Government for the Province of New York, that it would be any Obstacle to the Assembly's making an Augumentation of 500 Men to their own Colony Forces, as had been proposed if there should be occasion for them; and the Massachusets Bay had actually done of 300 to theirs; the Governor thereupon told me, if 500 Men were allowed to be raised for New York in Connecticut, that the Government of Connecticut would lay aside all thoughts of making an Augumentation to the 1000 Men already raised for the same Service by themselves.

As this struck me not a little, I told him tho' I was far from desiring to hinder the Success of your Honour's application to him for the 500 Men, but on the contrary wish'd it might succeed if the complying with it would not be an Obstacle to Connecticutt's raising more on their own Account, yet I hop'd the Government would consider well whether the granting of that permission would hinder them from Augumenting their Troops, as they had otherwise proposed before they granted it; that I confessed if the Effect of raising 500 Men for the Government of New York within the Colony of Connecticutt was to be so great a weakining of the Forces, then raising for the King's Service at this critical conjuncture, I could see no reason why the Government of New York should not be put to raise their whole 800 Men out of their own Inhabitants, which would not be a 20th part of their fighting Men, rather than that should happen; That when the Government of the Massachusets Bay should have rais'd their 1500 Men for Crown point, that Province would have above 4000 taken out of it for the King's Service, which was rather more I beleived than a 9th part of their Fighting Men.

This is the substance as nearly as I can recollect of the whole that

pass'd between Govr. Fitch and me that night; and the matters dwelt upon my mind so strongly in my Journey, that when I reached Col. Chandler's at Worcester, I repeated the same thing to him in a letter from thence by Express, particularly assuring him in it "That "I had not the least objection to the raising of the 500 Men in "question within his Colony, provided it would not be an Obstacle "to their Augumenting their own Forces, but that on the contrary "in such case I wish'd the Government of New York success in "that application." The reason of which is, that I thought from what your Honour had told me, the Men might be sooner rais'd there than in New York.

Whether or no, what has pass'd between Govr. Fitch and me, may have contributed towards hindering Your Brother from obtaining the whole 500 Men, which he applyed for to the Government of Connecticutt, I won't pretend to say, as I know not the reason upon which the Government of Connecticut confin'd it to that Number, I have rather reason to think otherwise; But, however that may be, I may flatter myself if yourself had been present and heard what Govr. Fitch mentioned to me, he apprehended would be the detrimental consequence to his Majesty's Service in the General Expedition now carrying on by his General on this Continent, of raising the 500 Men in the Colony of Connecticut instead of the Government of New York, that you would have been of my Sentiments and declared them freely as I did, especially as your Brother had declared at Hartford, that if he would accept the Chief Command of the Forces at New York, the whole 800 Men might be raised in ten days within that Government. Now, if that is the case, tho' I will allow it might be of great advantage in raising the Men to have him their Chief Commander, yet I think it shows that there is no particular aversion in the Men to the Service.

This Letter would have ended here had not M^r. Fitch further informed me, that when your Brother was told at Hartford, that the sole reason of my interfering in the matter so far as I did was to prevent the King's Service from suffering by it, he declared that that was only a Gloss upon the matter, that my real motive for doing it was to hinder your Government from raising any of their Men in Connecticut, abstracted from any Mischief that might arise from it to the common Cause.

As such a Declaration must be founded on your Brother's Imagination only, and has a malignant tendency to beget uneasiness and Jealousies, which can produce nothing but Mischief to his Majesty's Service, I can't persuade myself that M^r. Fitch must misunderstand him, and that he is incapable of uttering so unadvis'd a thing in public.

If I should be mistaken in this, and any thing like what M^r. Fitch hath acquainted me with should have been propogated by M^r. Oliver De Lancey in your Government, I hope, and doubt not, but your Honour will do me the Justice to lay this Letter before your

Council, or declare in an effectual manner to them that it is a misapprehension of your Brother's.

If it was requisite for me to say thing further upon this head, I might let your Honour know, that on its being proposed to me at Hartford by a gentleman of influence there, to ask leave of that Government to raise more Men in it for the Nova Scotia Expedition, which it is apprehended by many are wanted, and do it before the Assembly of Connecticut had come to a determination upon the application of New York, I declared it for this reason expressly, that I hoped a sufficient Number was raised for that Service, and it might possibly interfere with the application of New York, which I was far from desiring to do, further than I thought his Majesty's immediate Service might absolutely require it.

I am with great Esteem, Sir,
Your Honour's most Humble
& most Obedient Servant,
W. SHIRLEY.

Honble James De Lancey, Esqr.

Indorsed.—Govr. Shirley to Govr. Delancey about New York raising 500 Men in Connecticut.*

Gov. Morris to Gov. Shirley, 1755.

Philad^a, May 26, 1755.

Dear Sir:

I take the Liberty to recommend to your notice a Capt John Parker, who commands one of the New Jersey Companys, He is a young gentleman of very good understanding, has been bread in the King's service at sea, under your old Acquaintance, Capt Spry, and behaved himself in the East Indies very much to his Cap^ts Satisfaction; His family and friends are of Consequence in this Part of America, and I can venture to answer for his acquitting himself with Honour upon the present service, and shall esteem your good offices to him as a favour done to

Your Excell^y.

Indorsed.—Dft. to Gov. Shirley in favour of John Parker.

* "Inclosed in Letter of 28th May."

Wm. Pepperell to Gov. Morris, 1755.

New York, May 26th 1755.

Sir:

Hearing that the Post was going out this day, I tho't it my Duty to let your Hon^r know that I was here; and I assure you that it would give me a Vast pleasure could I have an oportunity to wait on you in your Government, but as I expect Govr Shirley soon here to go on Action, must refer it.

I am greatly distres'd to find my Regiment not much more than half compleated; as Col^o Shirley is now full, cannot you help an old Friend in giving your Assistance to my recruiting officers, that they may raise a hundred or two of brave men in your Government, & to hasten them here, this would lay me under new obligations and shall always be acknowledg'd by

Sir Your Most Faithfull
and Most obedient Humble Servt.

W^m. PEPPERELL.

I would send you some good dry Code fish from hence if I knew how. Lt Col^o Mercer tells me that you wrote to him for Mr. Hendrick Lyell, of ye Jerseys. I have recommended him by this Post to General Braddock for an Ensignee in my Regiment.

To The Honourable Robert H Morris, Esqr,
Lt Governor & Commander-in-Chief of his
Majesty's Province of Penselvania.

Gov. Morris to Robert Orme, 1755.

Dr Sir:

Anxious to know what progress the Commiss^rs had made in cutting the great Waggon road from Shippensburgh to Ohiogany, I made all the dispatch I cou'd, and have the pleasure to tell you that they are going on successfully—that there are two hundred men at work—that they have plenty of bread & provisions—are well provided with tools, and 'tis told me, will reach the forks of OhioGany in one month at ye farthest, others say sooner. There the Genl will hear from them, and he will be pleas'd to favour them with his commands whether to proceed to the road of his march from Wills's Creek to the French Fort, or require them to make any offsets that shall be judg'd necessary for your further communication. Consider if the road from Allaguipas Gap to Wills's creek be necessary, if so, on their return it may be cutt, but for my part I see not the immediate expediency or necessity of it; please to remember that Mr.

Croghan and the Indians are to examine the Road from the Alleghany Hill to the Northward before it forks into the Laurel hill & the other range of hills which retain the name of Alleghany hills, in order to find out a Commodious offsett from this road to Venango; the offsett, on the short consideration had on it with You, was judg'd best to begin at Laurel hill, as between Venango and that hill it was said by Mr. Croghan there were no Mountains and the rivers afforded commodious fording places. This matter must be well digested by You, as it shall be well considered by the persons of Judgment in Philadelphia, and our sentiments must be exchanged upon it; but the more I think of it, the more I think commodious offsetts may be made from this road to every place of consequence in North America. Young Cressap got notice of the intent of the party and made off, and matters go on Swimmingly now; the Flower is under cover now, Waggons and pack-horses are providing for its carriage, and where damaged or likely to be so, it will be put into other Casks or Baggs. If for the King's Service Mr. Franklyn & myself give to any persons for their encouragement reasonable promises, as well for just pay as that they shall not be press'd into more Service than that they engage for, I hope these will be well taken. For the encouragement of ye workmen on the roads, I sent the Comm^rs a letter, wherein I told them they had ye approbation of the Genl, and wou'd receive his thanks at the end of their work, if faithfully done and wth all due Expedition; make my Excuse to Mr. Shirley for not taking leave of him, he was at the Court Martial.

I am,

D^r S^r, y^rs aff^tly.

Indorsed.—Copy Lre. to Mr. Robert Orme, Aid-de-Camp of General Braddock, 26 May, 1755.

Genl. Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Boston, May 28th 1755.

Dear Sir:

I gave it in charge to Jack, who acts in capacity of Secretary, Aid-de-Camp, and several others, to give you an acc^t of the Business we did in our way to Boston since we left you, and of what we are doing in the great hurry wch perpetually surrounds me here.

The few vacant minutes I now have, shall be employ'd in Expressing the sense I have of the favours and Acts of Friendship I received from you in your own Governm^t, and the several others, wch I pass'd thro' in Company with you, which have made a lasting Impression upon my mind, and I shall take great pleasure in returning to you and your family, as opportunity may put it in my power; I have the satisfaction to let you know that Captn Staats in particular

is deserving of my sincerest regard, and it gave me no small pleasure y^t his Lt Colonel told me yesterday y^t he had already given marks of great Diligence in the care of his Company, and making a very good officer; Capacity for it I knew before he had; I shall be proud of him as an officer in my Regim^t, and shall think my self happy in contributing what I can towards its being a Step to his promotion, wch I hope he will obtain thro' his merit, to the utmost of your wishes.

The addition of Colonel Peter Schuyler and the New Jersey Regiment to the Expedition under my Command, for which I am oblig'd to you, was of great Importance to my success and his Maj^ys service; and I am now, from the best opinions, fully satisfy'd y^t the French will muster all the force they possibly can for preserving the pass of Niagara, upon their holding possession of wch depends the keeping of all the Southern Territories and the Great Lakes and Rivers they have at present usurped the Dominion of, together with their Influence over the Indians there; and what proportion does the value of Crown Point bear to that of the Lakes and Southern Country? It behooves me, therefore, greatly to augment my force as much as possible, wch I shall endeavour to do, For it is certainly too weak at present.

The D———ys have thrown all imaginable Obstructions in my way, and I perceive an open Quarrel with the G——r is unavoidable.

I shall live in hopes y^t you will bring General Braddock along with you to Boston the next fall, and wish you all imaginable happiness in every part of life; being with a most sincere Esteem and friendship,

Dear Sir,

Your most faithfull

humble Servant.

W. SHIRLEY.

Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr.

Indorsed.—Entered in Council Minute of the 7th June, 1755.*

Gov. Morris to Gov. De Lancey, 1755.

Sir:

I have your favour with the Packet for the Genl, which I shall send forward by Express; the Troops, I imagine, will leave Wills's Creek in about two days, and I shall have in little time a road open to the forks of Yohio Gany, by which the army will be supplyed

* There is no minute of this date, one paragraph only is entered, 6th June.

with whatever they may want. I shall forward the Letter to Cap^n Rutherford, and am obliged to you for the Intelligence.

I am, Sir,

Your most obed^t

Humble Servt,

ROBERT H. MORRIS.

Philad^a: 28th of May, 1755.

Govr Delancey.

Indorsed.

Coppy—to Govr Delancey, May 28th, 1755.

JOHN SHIRLEY TO GOV. MORRIS. 1755.

Dear Sir:

I should not sleep quiet on my Bed was this Express to go away without a line from me, to give You a short Acco^t of our Proceedings. The Nova Scotia Troops sail'd not 'till four days after our Return hither: They waited for their Arms from England, wch were ten Weeks in their Passage, but my father seems to think that if he had not been absent, they would have gone wth such Arms as might have been had here 3 Weeks before they did. Rous, Shirley & Proby, in 20 Gun Ships, sail'd as their Convoy; it is Certain that the French, at Louisbourg, had but one thirty Six Gun Ship there a Month ago, & that they were almost starving for want of Provisions.

We go on as fast as I expected in our particular Expedition, & this Province & Connecticut Seem near ready to march their Men towards Crown Point. Our Regiment will begin to move in Companies from hence to Providence, where Transports are ready to receive 'em, by this day Week, & they are to proceed directly to Albany, without debarking at New York. The Master Builder, wth sufficient Workmen, went from hence ten days, to build the two Schooners, wch wth two small Row Gallies as their Tenders, will be ready for Service in a Month, at farthest, from their Arrival there.

This is possitively all my time will allow me to say to You at present, for my father takes up every Moment of it, & I imagine, if I was not his Son, as he is now a Major General, he would declare me his Aid de Camp; but you know how nice he is in providing for those wch all ye World beside provide for first. We are vastly happy in our Corps of officers: Staats, when he is not in Camp, is much at ye Province House, & it is my father's request that he sh^d be always with us. Pray excuse me to M^r. Penn, I have not time

to answer his fav^{r} by this Express, if Tifter does the Jobb for my Mare I shall be quite happy. I am wth the warmest Affection,

Dr Sir,

Your Oblig'd & most

Obedient Servant,

JOHN SHIRLEY.

My father is more & more pleas'd wth Billy Alexander, every Letter he receives from him. My father & myself dont move from hence before three Weeks, every body else goes wth ye Regiment.

Boston, May 29th, 1755.

Directed.

To The Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Philadelphia.

Indorsed.

John Shirley, May 29th, 1755.

Thomas Penn to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Sir:

Since I wrote you the 10th of this month,* of which Letter I sent a duplicate by way of Boston, and enclose a duplicate herewith, I have received a Letter from M^{r}. Peters, with an account that you had called the Assembly, and communicated to them Letters you had received from M^{r}. Shirley and M^{r}. Bradock, and asked supplys from them for the services recommended by those Gentlemen; if they should do what is expected of them for the present service, you will not immediately call them, but if they refuse you will call them again, as you are enjoyned by our joynt Letter, and put in execution the several things directed in it.

I have not yet the Report of the Board of Trade, but expect to send it to you by a Ship to New York, Saturday. I heard only late last Night of this Conveyance from Plymouth, and that I must not lose this post, and shal only tel you I have no reason to change my opinion with regard to it; the papers that have passed on the occasion are printed with the Messages, between M^{r}. Hamilton and the former Assembly, together with the several Questions and names of the members, which have been of great service. I recommend it to you to keep close to the matter you press upon them, and avoid as much as possible all Controversy on any thing they may throw in foreign to the subject, which they seek after in order to perplex the business, this I have heard it said you have been drawn to much into, tho I, who was more sensible of what is expected in America for the satisfaction of the populace, saw it in a different light. I shall write you with the report in a few days, in the mean time remain,

Sir, You very affectionate Friend,

THO. PENN.

London, May 29, 1755.

* See page 305.

I think you had better have avoided giving some of the reasons you did for not passing the Bills, to Sir Thomas Robinson, as those Reasons were more propper for a Governor in a King's Government.

Indorsed.

Mr. Penn. May 29th, 1755.

Gov. M——? to W. Shirley, Esq., 1755.

May 23, 1755.

Sir,

I have wrote to Mr. Orme & Sr John St. Clair, the state of the Road to the Ohiogany as it was reported to me by some of the Inhabitants just come from it. But at this Town of Carlisle, I was told by a person of good understanding, that the Persons employ'd tho' the best that were in the County, did not understand making good & strong & durable Waggon ways aside of Hills if any thing steep, and I am afraid they will miss it in this and perhaps other places that require skill and knowledge in mending & making good Roads.

I shoud therefore think that since the General has so much dependance on this Road, an Engineer should be sent from ye Camp to direct & overlook ye workmen. If this be not done expeditiously I am atraid from this new Information on which I can depend, that it will not be so good as I reported to the General, tho' this I can be sure of, that the Places thro' which the Road goes, will admit of as good an one as can be made.

As soon as I understood this, I sent two new hands, who were recommended to me to be persons of good understanding & practice in this Branch of Business, and I hope they will be of service. But still, without an Engineer, the work will not be so well done as it ought. Please to inform ye General of this.

Carlisle, 23 May, 1755.

Wm. Shirley, Esqr.

Indorsed.

Copy Lre. to Mr. Shirley, 23 May, 1755.

Gov. Morris to R. Peters, 1755.

May 30, 1755.

Dear Sir,

I intend this shall have the Pleasure of saluting your worship at Lancaster, where it will wait your Coming, and is among other things to desire you will forward the sending the forage from thence as soon as you can. There has been a quarrel between Capt. Leslie, the officer employ'd by the Genl. and Mr. Ross the Lawyer; how it was circumstanced I do not particularly know, nor, as it happen'd at a Billiard table, do I think it very material. I would not, however, have the publick service obstructed by it, and I must depend on your settling matters so that the forage may arrive in time at the Camp. I gave Mr. Leslie when he was in town £500, and shall send him five Hundred pounds more by this conveyance, agreeable to his demand and the general's request to me, which I hope will be sufficient to answer His purposes where he is, as I am preparing to send sixty waggon Load of oats and Corn from hence, for which I am sorry to say, that I shall be obliged to give more for the transporting of it, than the thing is worth, such advantages are taken by the people of the Public wants.

I want much to hear what is done and doing about the road of which I expect a full acct from you, and much more to see you, having been at a loss for the want of your assistance.

I am, Dr Sir,
Your Most faithful
Friend and Servt,
ROBT. H. MORRIS.

Philad'a, May 30,
1755.

I shall send the money by a man that goes out of town to morrow morning, Frederick Zeiser, a drover.

Mr. Peters.

Deposition Matthias Steelman, 1755.

May 30, 1755.

Kent County on Delaware.

Mathias Steelman, aged about twenty Seven Years or thereabouts, being Sworn on ye holly Avanglies of Almighty God, Deposeth and Saith that he, this Deponant hath Lived on a peace of Land on Tappahananh Mash, that did Belong to Watman Sipple and Neare ye place where ye sd Sipple has his Medow on s'd Mash, and this Deponant hath Lived there three years and Better, and have paid his

Leveys in Kent County on Delaware, with out any Interruption, and this Deponent farder Saith, that on ye Second day of this Instant, Came Thomas Harris, of Queneans County of ye provinc of Maryland, and some men with him, and Said he was aGoing to Boye a parcell of Catle of Watman Sipple and Impli'd this deponant and a Negro man to help him over ye Mash with s'd Catle, and when he had Carried ye s'd Catle over ye Mash, But not of of ye s'd Land Called Tappahanah, then ye s'd Harris Destran'd on thirty one head of Catle belong to s'd Sipple and ye Negro that he had Imploied with this deponant to Carry ye Catle as afors'd, which Negro did Belong to ye s'd Sipple But Lived with this deponant and farder saith Not.

his
MATTHIAS ⋈ STEELMAN.
mark.

Taken before me,
ROBT. WILLCOCKS.
May, ye 30th day, 1755.

Indorsed.
Steelman's Deposition to support Wartman Sipple's Petition.*
Copy deliver'd to the Govr of Maryland.

DEPOSITION CHARLES VANDERFORD, 1755.

Kent County, on Delaware.

Charles Vandeford, aged about twenty-six years or thereabouts, being sworn on ye Holly Avanglies of Allmighty God, Deposeth and Saith, that he, this Deponent, hath Lived about Six years on part of a tract of land Called Tapahanah, and ajoying to his father's plantation, Thomas Vandeford, and Neare ye place where Watman Sipple has his Medow, which is on Taphanah Mash, out of which Medow Thomas Harris, of Queen Anne County, took thirty-one head of Catle and one Negro Man, for Rent dew to ye Lord Baltamore, and this Deponent farder Saith, that he has allways and every yeare since he Lived there, paid his Leveys in Kent County, on Delaware, with out any Inter Ruption, and Never heard of Aney Rent Being demanded by aney person what ever, till ye Distress made by ye above s^d Harris, and farder saith not.

CHARLES UANDERFORD.

May ye 30th day, 1755.
Taken before me, one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for s^d Co.
ROBT. WILCOCKS.

Indorsed.
Charles Vandeford, Deposition, to support Wartman Sipple's Petition.

* See Colon. Rec. Vol. vi. 418.

Deposition Thomas Vandeford, 1755.

Kent County, on Delaware.

Thomas Vandeford, aged about fifty-six years, or thereabouts, being Sworn on ye Holly Avanglis of Almighty God, Deposeth and Saith, that he, this Deponent, hath Lived about thirteen years on part of a track of Land called Tapahanah, that he, this Deponent, purchased of Wattman Sipple, and neare ye place where the s^d^ Sipple's Medow is, on ye s^d^ Tapahanah Mash, out of which Medow ye s^d^ Watman Sipple had thirty-one head of Catle taken out by Thomas Harris, of Queen Anne County, and also a Negro Man Belonging to s^d^ Sipple, for Rent dew to ye Lord Baltamore, and this Deponent farder saith, that he, this Deponent, hath always paid his Levy in the County of Kent, on Delaware, with out any Interruption by any person whatsoever, and never heard of any Rent being Demanded by any person whatsoever for s^d^ Land, till this Late Distress, made by the above s^d^ Harris, and farder saith not.

his
THOMAS ⋈ VANDERFORD.*
mark.

May ye 30th day, 1755.

Taken before me,
Rob. Wilcocks.

Indorsed.
Thomas Vanderford Deposition.

Deposition of Alexr. Quillin, 1755.

Kent County on Delaware.

Alexander Quilling, aged about thirty-five years or there a Bouts, being Sworn on ye Holly Evangilis of Allmighty God, Deposeth and Saith, that this Deponent hath Lived on a track of Land Called Tappahanah about foure Years, and on that part of ye s^d^ track that Watman Sipple Conveied to his Son in Law, And^w^ Caldwell, and on ye Second day of this Instant Came Thomas Harris of Queen Anne County of ye Province of Marry Land, and four men with him, and told this deponent that he was a Bout Boying a parcell of Catle of Watman Sipple, and ye pursuaded this deponent to Go over ye Mash to s^d^ Sipple's Medow and help him to Bring ye s^d^ Catle to ye house of this deponent, that he Might Make a Choyce a Monguest s^d^

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. VI., p. 418.

Catle, for he Intended to Go Down ye Nack to s^d Sipple's house that Night to finish ye Bargon on which this deponent went with s^d Harris' Negro Boy to ye s^d Sipple's Meadow and Braught thirty-one head of Catle to the house of this deponent, where s^d Harris Distrain^d on s^d Catle and one Negro Man of s^d Sipple's that Lived att Matthias Steelman's, who Came with ye s^d Steelman there and Set up ye Notis of ye Distress at ye dore of this Deponent, and farder Saith Not.

his
ALEX^R ⋈ QUILLIN.*
mark.

Dover, May 30, 1755.

The above Deposition was Taken before me one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for s^d Co^y.
ROBT. WILCOCKS.

Indorsed—Quillin's Deposition.

GOV. SHIRLEY TO GOV. DE LANCEY, 1755.

Boston, June 1st, 1755.

Sir—

I have received Your Honours Letter date the 20th May, with the Opinion of his Majesty's Council for your Province upon the subject of the Cannon I desired the Loan of; I am sorry that I have given yourself or the Council so much Trouble about this Affair. Had I thought that your sparing two more of your Brass twelve Pounders for the King's service at Niagara would have exposed your Fort to any danger, I should not have urg'd my request so far as I have done; which I have continued to importune you for in my last, I would trouble your Honour no more about it.

As to my proposing to your Honour the lending of the ten eighteen Pounders for his Majesty's Service now carrying on in Nova Scotia with the Carriages, &c. Mr. Clinton having lent them to the King's service in the Expedition against Cape Breton in a time of actual War, I apprehended they might as well be spar'd now with safety to the City of New York, for his Majesty's Service in Nova Scotia; and as there were no Cannon in this Province so fit for Battering pieces in that Service, I proposed to your Honour the Loan of them, which I should not have troubled you with if they had been to be found here. The same Servic[illegible]d that 2000 Men should be rais'd in the Colonies, as my own Government abounded with Men, I rais'd at least 1700 of them there, without

* Referred to Col. Rec. Vol. VI. p. 418.

proposing it to your Honour to raise any in your own; I thought this Province might spare them better than New York; as I now believe that your Honour's Government can much better spare the ten 18 Pounders in question than my own can the six pieces of Ordnance which I have sent to Nova Scotia out of Castle William. It must at least be allowed that the Province is considerably weak by sparing so many Men as also these Cannon out of the principal Battery of a Fortress, which is its Key, and only considerable Defence against any Attack by Sea.

As to the six 18 Pounders and 4 small brass Field pieces, which your Honour hath spared for the Service of the Expedition against Crown point, as Mr. Clinton had done before, for the like service in 1746: I understand they were sent out of Albany, where they have laid these last ten years, and I dont well see how the Loan of them now can have weakened the City of New York.

However, Sir, to put this matter out of Question, upon the advice which I received in a Letter from Mr. Alexander concerning the difficulties under which my request to Your Honour for the two last Brass twelve Pounders labour'd; I had caus'd before I received your last Letter, two of your ten Eighteen Pounders, together with two 24 Pounders out of Castle William, with Carriages and Implements to be put on board a Sloop, which is to sail to-day for New York, and have Ordered the two last mentioned Cannon to be delivered to your Honour with the two 18 Pounders, which I hope will be satisfactory to you and the Gentlemen of his Majesty's Council. I dont suppose it adviseable for your Honour to part with any Cannon without their advice; at the same time I am persuaded that your Honour's sentiments have great weight with them, upon such, and indeed every other occasion.

I shall trouble your Honour no further upon this point than to observe, that in 1745 and 1746 all these Cannon were lent by the Government of New York to his Majesty's service for the Expedition against Cape Breton, and the then intended one against Crown point, without any demand of their being replaced from this Government, and indeed they were most readily for the present Service in which they are employed without any hesitation by your Honour until I requested of you to spare me the 6 12 Pounders for his Majesty's Service in which I am engaged at Niagara. I am sorry that that hath occasioned any difficulty, and upon the whole would beg the favour of your Honour, if any should still remain, to acquaint me with it, that I may certainly know what I have to depend upon, and provide as well as I can for the service in case of any disappointment as to the six 12 Pounders, and I would further desire if I am to have them, that your Honour would be pleased to give Orders for the immediate delivery of them to Mr. Alexander and Lewis Morris, that they may be transported to Oswego before the Waters are too low.

I should have mentioned, that new Carriages were made here for

the eight 18 Pounders, which are gone to Nova Scotia, so I shall immediately return the former Carriages.

Your Honours intentions in your Letter, that the Fund you have for defraying the Expences of what General Braddock hath Ordered me to do for making Osweego defensible is exhausted, and that you cant bear the Expence of sending the Iron Cannon to that Fort: by the inclosed Extract of the General's Instructions to me, your Honour will see that I am directed "to make Application to your Honour for "the Money wanted to make Osweego defensible, out of those appro-"priated *by the Government of New York for the Defence of their Fron-"tiers.*" I remember well that the sum mentioned by your Honour to the General in Council at Alexandria as what you had in your power, and would dispose of to his Orders for the making of Osweego defensible was £500, which I understood was the sum you Confined it too; and I would not press your Honour for any thing out of your power, at the same time I would submit it to your Consideration whether it may not be thought something extraordinary for your Government to put the Crown to the Expence of transporting Cannon to one of its own Forts within the Province, or even for making Carriages for them; but that shall be entirely as your Honour pleases, all that I desire is, that the Cannon may be transported to Osweego as soon as possible, and Carriages, &c., provided for them, and if your Government is not to be at the Expence of it, that you will be pleased to give Orders for the immediate delivery of the Cannon to Messrs. Alexander and Morris, whom I will order to take care of it. As to any sum of Money which your Honour may have advanced above the £500 in the above mentioned service nothing shall be wanting in me that I can regularly do to set it right; and I can at present see no difficulty in it.

Your Honor observes, that I must be sensible from Mr. Stoddart's Letter which you put into my hands, that the Fort which the French have at Niagara is a weak triffling thing, and incapable of Defence, and that you are of opinion five hundred would easily reduce it, *unless the French have time to throw up some new Works about it, and reinforce it with a Body of Troops.* I agree with your Honour in this; but that is not the point under Consideration. The Question is, Whether the French will not probably have thrown up new Works, and reinforced it with a Body of Troops, before the Forces destined for the reduction of that Fort can arrive at Niagara, especially as the French have had an Opportunity of gaining Intelligence of our designs against that Fort by the way of Albany. Every Person who is allowed to be a good Judge in this matter here that I have Conversed with, is fully of that Opinion, as is the General Assembly of this Province, who have informed themselves very critically in the Affair from Mr. Lydius of your Government and Capt. Kellogg of this Province, who are both remarkably well acquainted with the Country and matters in Question. Your Honour acknowledges in Your Letter, that the reduction of the French Fort and the gaining

possession of the Pass at Niagara, are of * * * * Importance to the British Interests in General which I represent it to be off. Upon what then does Your Honour Ground your opinion; that the French will give it up to the English without exerting their utmost Efforts, and mustering a strong Body of Troops in the Defence of it, before it is possible for the English Forces to arrive at Niagara, since there can be no reasonable doubt but that our designs against it must be violently suspected by them, if not known with absolute certainty.

If that should not be Your Opinion, then why does Your Honour think that no part of the forces originally designed for the Expedition against Crown point can be spared from that Service to strengthen those which are designed for Niagara. You expressly acknowledge in your Letter that, "I certainly look upon the attempt against "Niagara in a true light, and that if the French muster a Strong "Force at that place, *it must weaken their fforces at Crown point.*"

Your Honour says in your Letter, "That if, the other Govern-"ments take no Umbrage at the present destination of the New "Jersey fforces,—you shall acquiesce, and you hope they will not." I beg leave to acquaint your Honour that I fully laid this matter before the Government of Connecticut, when I was at Hartford, and they took not the least umbrage at it; and you will see by the Vote of my own Government, that they are far from doing it, and you are sensible that these two Governments, with that of New York, will raise 3300 of the 4200 men which are to be raised for the Expedition against Crown point, so that I have reason to hope that neither New Hampshire nor Rhode Island Government will.

I beg leave to add, that General Braddock originally intended that the whole Corps of mine and Sir Willm Pepperrells Regiments, should proceed to Niagara. But that, as your Honour advised him to post two Companies of the latter Regiment at Oswego, for the defence of that Fort, (within the Government of New York,) which your Honour says in your Letter, was the reason of his doing it, and consequently occasioned the lessening of the Forces, that would otherwise have gone in that Expedition; I hope you may think that a reason, why neither your Honour nor your Government should take Exception to those forces being further strengthened out of those raised for the Service at Crown Point, if the other Governments agree to it.

Your Honour further says in Your Letter, "that I tell you there will most probably be raised 4,700 for the Service at Crown Point," and further say, "that the Number, according to the Quota's of the several Governments, the Jerseys included, where, as You was informed, when "at Alexandria, 4500, Viz^t: Massachusetts, 1200; "New Hampshire, 600; Rhode Island, 400; Connecticutt, 1000; "New York, 800; Jerseys, 500; so that these last taken out, Your "Excellency will be so good as to inform me where the other 700 "are to be raised," and proceed to say, "that you hope Major "General Johnson will be able to engage 300 Indians." To give

Your Honour satisfaction in this matter, it is necessary for me to observe to you, that the Computation of the Quota's of Men to be raised by the Colonies, which you referr to, was mentioned in a Council at Alexandria, and if you will give yourself the Trouble to consult your Copy of the Minutes of that Council, you will find that those Quota's are there mentioned to amount to 4400, not 4500 as you make them.

Another mistake is, that you include the New Jersey forces in your Number of 4500, Whereas, it was not known at the time of that Council, whether that Government would raise any or not. Your Honour may remember, that the Express, which brought the General the News of their having voted 500 Men, did not arrive till the night before you left Alexandria. Your Honour makes a mistake likewise, as to the Quota's of three of the Colonies, from whence the Gross number mentioned in the Minutes of the Council was made up, which it is not material to enter into. It is more to the purpose, to show how I make out the Number of Men, which I said in my Letter, would probably be raised; To do which, I reckon to the Massachusetts Bay, 1500; Connecticut, 1000; New York, 800; New Hampshire, 500; Rhode Island, 400; the Indians, 300; in all 4500. If I have called them 4700, I made a mistake of 200, which I hope you will Excuse.

Your Honour observes, that I have expressed my Surprize & Concern at your supposed Omission to Grant General Johnson a Warrant to impress Carriages, Battoes, &c., and assure me, that you have sent him one. That assurance, perfectly convinces me, that you did. But that you may not think I imagin'd upon slight Grounds, that you had not, I beg leave to let you know, that the Person who gave me such Information, told me in the most positive manner, that he had it from Mr. Johnson's own Mouth, upon the Road between Albany and Mount Johnson; that he expressed a great uneasiness at it, and mentioned it with a design, that I should be acquainted with it; Your Honour will, I hope, Excuse my being alarm'd at it. I am obliged to you for furnishing Mr. Alexander, my Agent, with an Impress Warrant likewise.

Your Honour says in Your Letter "you should be glad to understand my reasoning, how Your applying at the request of the "Assembly to the Government of Connecticut, for leave to raise "Men in that Colony, can with any Propriety, be said to weaken "the forces for Crown point." I hope my last Letter to You hath fully Explained it; the Governor of Connecticut told me at Hartford, that if the Assembly should give your Government leave to raise 500 men within their Colony, pursuant to your Honours request, they would lay aside all thoughts of making an Augumentation to their own Troops, which they had before thought of doing, to the amount of 500 Men. I presume Your Honour will allow, that in such Case, your raising the 500 Men desired, in Connecticut, instead of your own Government, and by that means, preventing the

the Government of Connecticut from making their designed addition of 500 Men to their own Troops, might with propriety, be said to weaken the forces "raised for Crown point."

Your Honour concludes Your Letter with telling me, that you mentioned it as Your Opinion to General Braddock, at Alexandria, "that 1300 Men of the two Regiments, should go to reduce Niagara, "and that having secured that Pass, and left there a Garrison of "300 Men, the remaining thousand should proceed to the Peninsula, "on the Lake Erie, and secure that Post, by which means the "General would with more ease, penetrate through that Country "from the Ohio, and so return by the way of Niagara, and that the "General seem'd to approve of the Plan." And you advise me to pursue it. The General communicated to me the Plan he proposed, with regard to the Operations upon the Ohio, and the reduction of Niagara, at first by Letter from Williamsburg, afterwards the *whole* Plan was settled the first day of my Meeting him at Alexandria, between him, Commodore Keppel, and myself, and I beg leave to assure Your Honour, however the General might seem to approve of your Plan of my passing over to the Presque Isle and Riviere au Boeuff, (as You elsewhere in Your Letter propose,) to assist him, he did not let one Word drop to me, either in his Letter, or at the settlement of the Plan, or in Conversation afterwards concerning it; and my Orders for employing the Forces under my Command, after securing the Pass at Niagara, are discretionary. I thank Your Honour for Your advice to myself, which will have great weight with me. But I am informed I shall meet with an insuperable difficulty in executing Your Scheme, as without Horses, which are not to be had at Niagara, I shall not be so able to transport the Battoes and Train of Artillery, over the Strait to Lake Erie, which, I presume, Your Honour thinks necessary to be done; I beg Leave, upon the whole, to assure you, that I will use my utmost endeavours to execute my Command, in the best manner I can for his Majesty's Service, and that any Obstacles, which may be thrown in my way, will allow.

I am, with great Regard, Sir,
Your Honours most Humble,
& most Obedient Servant,
W. SHIRLEY.

Boston, June 1, 1755.

Directed.
Govr Shirley to Govr Delancy, about cannon for ye Crown point & Niagara Expedition.

Indorsed,
Inclosed in Mr. Alexander's Lre. of the 9th June, 1756.

Gov. De Lancey to Gov. Morris, 1755.

New York, 11 June, 1755.

Sir:

My Son James is ordered into your Government to recruit for Sir William Pepperel's Regiment. I have directed him to wait on you to desire your Countenance in His Service. I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient &
most humble Servant,
JAMES DE LANCEY.

The Honorable Robert Hunter Morris.

Indorsed.

Govr De Lancey, by his Son. June 4th, 1755.

B. Franklin to R. Peters, 1755.

Thursday, June 5, '55.

Sir:

I sent M^r. Burd's Letter* & yours, which were given me by the Speaker yesterday, to M^r. Fox, who lives nearest to me of any of Members of Assembly. I am not well enough to go about the Town in this extreme hot weather; but Some of the Members having been kind enough to visit me, I find they are of Opinion that the Application to them is quite improper. As they have had no Meeting on the Occasion, and some of them decline meeting at all on an Affair which they think no way belongs to them to meddle with, I can say nothing further, than, that I am, very affectionately,

Yours, &c.,
B. FRANKLIN.

P. S. I will send to enquire for the Letters, & when I get them will send them to you.

Directed.

To Richard Peters, Esqr.

Indorsed.

B. Franklin, 5 June, 1755.

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. VI., p. 404.

Gov. Morris to R. Peters, 1755.

Thursday morning, June 5.

Dr Sir:

I think the speaker might condescend to give an answer to the letter you wrote, or since he does not, a written answer should be had from the members of the Committee; if the People should leave the road for want of arms,* which they had applyd to me for, I should have it to shew that I had applyd to those that have power over Publick money, and had been deny'd what was necessary for the service, that I am told the House have resolved to be at the sole charge of. There is too much reason to fear that work will be interupted by some stragling Indians, or may be only by the fears and defenceless state of those employd in the work—and the march and supply of the army made more difficult by that means—the whole blame of which I must have it in my power to throw off myself. I must therefore insist on an answer in writing, which you will be so good as to procure time enough to write to Burd, by Mr. Swaine.

Yours,

ROBT. H. MORRIS.

Directed. Mr Peters.

Indorsed. Govr Morris, 5 June, 1755.

R. Peters to Isaac Norris.

To Isaac Norris, Esquire.

Sir:

An opportunity now offering to send an answer to Mr. Burd, I have the Governors Commands to desire your Answers to my Letter of yesterday, which you will please to favour me with by my Servant.

Extract of a Letter from Gov'r Hopkins to Gov'r Shirley, dated Providence, June 5th, 1755.

Your Excellency's letter, accompanied by Extracts from Major General Johnson's letter and his Instructions I receiv'd by Express on Saturday Evening, & on Tuesday by the Post, was favoured wth your other letter, and the resolve of your Great & General Court, impowering your Excellency to take 500 of the forces rais'd for the Expedition to Crown Point wth you, in your midland Enterprize.

The General Assembly of this Colony will meet on Monday next, when I shall lay the several matters recommended by you, as also

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. VI., p. 403.

those mentioned by General Johnson before them, and shall not fail to do every thing in my power to prevail with the Assembly to take effectual measures, that all may be done therein that is fit for them to do. There is no doubt but they will accede to the Resolve of your Assembly, for part of the forces destin'd for Crown Point going to Niagara.

Indorsed.

Extract of a letter from Govr Hopkins to Govr Shirley, dated 5th June, 1755.

Gov. De Lancey to Gov. Morris 1755.

New York, 5 June, 1755.

Sir:

I send you a Copy of the Minutes at Alexandria, according to your request, by Captain Ord,* who came Hither from Newfoundland, and is going through Philadelphia, in his way to General Braddock, to command the train; he is a Gentleman that seems to understand his business well, is modest and very obliging, he has given me a plan for fortifying Statten Island; his Merit, and the Service he goes on, will entitle him to your advice & assistance. I hear your Assembly are again to meet, I hope the result will be for the public Service. I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient & most humble Servant,

JAMES DE LANCEY.

Governor Morris.

Indorsed.

Govr Delancy, by Capt. Ord, Commander of the train.
7 June, 1755.

W. Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Dear Morris,

I have receiv'd your Letter of the 20th May, & have Seen that to Capt Orme giving an acco^t of ye State of Affairs in Europe, from wch a War Seems unavoidable. Your Speech to your Assembly inclos'd in mine is drawn with proper Spirit & Sense, and in my opinion founded upon very good Reasons. I wrote you Some time ago a Letter full of Complaints, and forget at present whom it went by; the Truth is I have many things that give me much uneasiness, wch I had rather tell you than write to you, and wch put me almost

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. VI., p. 365.

beyond my Stock of patience: I never expected ye most perfect Conduct with regard to Some Friends of yours & mine, but I could not have imagined it would have been so intolerable. On Monday we move from this place with 200 Waggons: How we shall get that Number over Such Roads & thro' such weather as we have had for some time past I know not, however I doubt not we shall get thro' it; We compute that we shall be before Fort Duquesne in little more than three weeks, If we are not long detain'd there; the Design Seems to be to go down Lake Erie in order to join ye Northern Forces at Niagara. I have shewn ye General that part of your Letter to me relating to ye present of provision you intend making him. If I knew what you had advanced for Forage, I would take care you sh^d have Bills Sent you upon Col. Hunter, without that it will be impossible, & I am affraid therefore cannot be in my power before we go: Leslie is not expected at ye Camp for Some time. I took ye liberty of a Friend in my last of giving you advice; I am sensible how little you stand in need of any thing of that Sort from me, but I could not hear any thing ye least to your disadvantage without writing to you upon it. The persons from whom I received my Intelligence were ye Franklin's who expressed a great opinion of your Honor & ability: you tell me in one of your's that ye Father is a sensible man, but too much attach'd to a wrong headed party; I thought ye Reverse of him, otherwise sh^d not have paid so much Regard to his or his Son's opinion in ye matter, as I know what effect Faction has upon ye most able and most deserving men in other respects: If therefore I was intirely without reason, as I suspect I was, in what I hinted to you, I cannot think you will take it amiss from me, but rather otherwise.

I have it much at heart to do ye Business we are about at this Crisis in ye most effectual manner, but own to you at ye same time. I shall be very glad when ye Campaign is over. Adieu, dear Morris, I can Say no more to you at present than that I am

Most Sincerely and affectionately,

W. SHIRLEY.*

Fort Cumberland, June 7, 1755.

It is not in my power to write to Mr. Peters; I beg you would give my Service to him and excuse me. He has desir'd an Engineer for ye Road; It is thought impossible at present to Send one.

My Friend Orme presents his best Complim^ts.

Direction.—On His Majesty's Service, To the Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Governor of Pensilvania, at Philadelphia.

Indorsed.—W. Shirley, that the troops would move with two hundred waggons on Monday ye 9th. N. 62.

* Son of Gov. S.

PASS GIVEN BY GEN. BRADDOCK FOR CERTAIN FEMALES, 1755.

By His Excellency Edward Braddock, Esqr., General and
[L. S.] Commander in Chief of all His Majes. Forces in North America.

I do hereby Certifie that the Bearers, Mary Welch, Elizabeth Webster, Mary Walker, Mary Crab, Darkey Moreton, Margaret Fergason, Margaret McPherson, Mary Jones, Rose Larthy, Mary Wray, Margaret Gates, Catharine McFarland, Jane Campbell, Catharine Watson, Anne Manning, Susanna Duncan, Anne Mc Donald, Mary Ryo, Margaret Doggett, Elizabeth Bickerby, Anne Anderson, Jean Anderson, Mary Scott, Anne Totle, Christiana Fergason, Mary Dimond, Eleanor Lemmon & Sarah Lord, are wives to Soldiers belonging to the Forces under my Command; And all persons whatsoever are hereby requir'd to suffer 'em to pass without hindrance or molestation; Given at the Camp at Fort Cumberland, the Ninth Day of June, 1755.

E. BRADDOCK.*

By His Excellency's Command,

W. SHIRLEY.

Indorsed.—Protection for Soldier's Wives, 9th June, 1755.

COPIES OF LETTERS FROM WM. ALEXANDER TO GOVERNOR SHIRLEY, 1755.†

New York, May 10th, 1755.

Sir:

In obedience your Excellency's Command I shall take every opportunity of Writing to You. Capt Bradstreet, with the two Companies under his Command, embark'd last Tuesday Morning, and Sail'd on Wednesday, the fine Winds he had must have carried him to Albany before Thursday Night. I'm afraid he'l be kept there some time for want of Battoes; he has with him every thing You Ordered me to supply him with. Have also sent with him Eight Ship Carpenters, four Sawyers, One Wheelwright and two Black smiths, and shall this Afternoon send up six Sawyers more, so that I am in hopes material sufficient will be ready at Osweego, when the Master Builders and other Carpenters from Boston arrive there, to go immediately to work on the Vessels. One Vessel arrived here Yesterday with Provisions (in part of the Pensilvania £10,000) which have sent up to Albany Consigned to Moses Emerson, and in his absence

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. VI., pp. 426, 430. † See page 355.

to Robert Saunders, agreeable to the directions sent by the Committee at Boston to that at Philadelphia.

The Articles to be provided here for the Niagara Expedition are in great forwardness, and hope to have them all at Schenectady in less than a fortnight.

On Wednesday last I waited on Govr De Lancy for his leave to try the six Brass Cannon you ordered us to get proved, when he told me that the Council had agreed to spare only four twelve Pounders. I told him I believed you had depended on having six at least, and that in viewing the Cannon I had found one Brass Eighteen Pounder that weighs but 2500^lb^ neat and beg'd at least to have that added to the four twelve Pounders, he said he would not consent to it without the advice of Council, and believed that they would not consent to part with any 18 Pounders, as they wanted them for the defence of this place. I told him if that was the only Objection it could be got over by your replacing it with a twenty-four Pounder, and then proposed to him that I should have his leave to to try all the Brass Cannon that are light enough for your purpose, and that you might hereafter settle the Number that are to go, to which he consented, and I have since picked out seven, six of them twelve Pounders and one Eighteen Pounder, which are to be tried this Afternoon, and I believe if Your Excellency sends two or three twenty-four Pounders from Castle William to be left here, there will be no difficulty in obtaining those seven, indeed there will then be no Room for Objections left.

The Eight hundred Men of this Province, I believe, will be raised in time. The Command of them is not yet fixed. 150 Battoes are Ordered to be built for their use, But there is not one yet a building for the forces of your Government, Hampshire, Rhode Island nor Connecticut if they are to be built it is high time Orders should be given for that purpose, nor is any one thing preparing here for the Crown Point Expedition beyond the fitting out of the 800 Men.

I have not yet heard of the Things Commodore Keppel was to send.

I shall inclose the Minutes of the Assembly here, which Your Excellency desired me to get for you. Also a Copy of the List and Estimate of the Provisions and Cloathing, &c., of the Jersey forces, by which You will see what they are provided with. The Provisions that We are purchasing here for Your's & Sir William Pepperel's Regiments are Bread, Pork, Beef and Peas, and some Rum; if there should be any other Articles necessary We should be glad to have directions as soon as possible.

I intend to set out for Albany to-morrow, and shall put every thing there as forward as possible.

I am, &c

To Govr Shirley, at Boston.

Albany, May 18th, 1755.

Sir:

I had the Honour of Writing to Your Excellency the 10th Inst. from New York. I set out from thence the 12th, and came here Yesterday Evening. I find that Capt King, with his Company, left Schenectady the 10th, and 'tis expected he will pass the Carrying place this day. Capt Barford, with his Company, left Schenectady last Tuesday, and Capt Bradstreet with his on Tuesday.

There have been several French Indians in this Town lately, particularly one Tom Wileman, who, as he speaks both Dutch and English, is very fit to get Intelligence for them, and on Capt Bradstreet's arrival went away in haste last Sunday morning; more are expected here to-day or to-morrow. It is said here, that the Garrison of Crown Point is 400 men, that the French in Canada have no apprehensions of any Attack from the English this Summer. But of these matters, I suppose Col. Johnson give your Excellency a more particular Account by this Conveyance than can be collected in this Town, as I hear there is a French Gentleman just arrived at his House from Montreal.

The People of Burnetsfield, whom I engaged to go and clear the upper part of the Mohawk's Rivers and the Wood Creek, are I hear already at Work. The Wood Creek is what most wants mending, and as it is a narrow winding Creek with great Numbers of large Trees hanging over it, it is in the power of a few Indians to fell as many Trees into it, in two or three days, as would require a Month to Clear out again. Wherefore I believe it would be of great use, that one Company of Pepperell's Regiment encamp at the further end of the great Carrying place, and it would be better still if a Company be encamped at each end of that Carrying place, but as they might Guard the Battoes at each end, it would save the Trouble and Expense of transporting a great Number of Battoes over the Carrying place, besides some of those Men may be employed in making the Road over the Carrying place and the Passage down the Wood Creek still better, it will also render it much more safe for the Troops to go to Oswego in small Parties, which I must beg leave to advise, for besides the many inconveniencies that will attend their going in large bodies and loosing time in passing the Carrying places, a great deal more time will be saved if they immediately begin to march off in Companies as they can get ready, at the distance of a day or two of each other, if your Excellency approves of this, it will be proper that Col. Mercer has your Orders to begin to send up the Men of Sir Willm Pepperell's Regiment in that manner as soon as possible, and that they take a proportion of Provision and such other things as from time to time may be ready to go, under their protection. I find it absolutely necessary to have two, or at least one Man in a Battoe that understands the management of them. Capt King and Bradstreet are both provided in that

manner, and there are very few now left either here or at Schenectady who are fit for that purpose, so that it will be impossible to get enough of these People if the Troops go altogether, but if they go in Parties, the same Persons may return and go two or three Trips.

In my Letter of the 10th I mentioned to Your Excellency that I had picked out seven pieces of Brass Cannon which Govr De Lancey had given me leave to try, they were tried that afternoon and stood the proof extremely well. I should be very glad if Your Excellency could prevail on Govr De Lancey to let you have all seven, and that we could have his leave to send them up here directly, for I would willingly have every thing ready at Schenectady to embark when you arrive there.

I have not yet seen Col. Johnson, But as it appears to me to be absolutely necessary to build two or three strong Store-houses between this and the Great Carrying place to Crown Point before the Provisions and Stores are sent up. I can't help acquainting Your Excellency that I think it will be very proper that such of the Forces designed for the Enterprize against Crown Point as are ready do as soon as possible March to Cover the Execution of that Work, what renders their coming here soon the more necessary is, that by some unaccountable Panic got into the People to the Northward of this Town, they have all left the Plantations on that side to within three or four Miles of the Town, and there is no getting any Body to do any thing, that way, but under strong Guards.

I am, Sir, &c.

To Govr Shirley, at Boston.

Albany, May 27th, 1755.

Sir:

Your Excellency's Letter of the 20th, by Joseph Glidden, I received yesterday afternoon. He and the other five Ship Carpenters set out this Morning for Schenectady, where they are to embark to-morrow Morning for Oswego, in Company with 12 Battoes, which I send there with Provisions, each of these Battoes have two Men in them, who in General are provided with Fire Arms. This is all the Guard it is possible to get for the Carpenters (for there are no Troops left here) and I am in hopes it will be sufficient, for the People of this Country are daily passing betwixt this and Oswego, without any apprehension of danger that way.

The Stores sent us by Commodore Keppel, and most of the other Necessaries, for the two Vessels, are already in proper Store-houses at Schenectady, also the greatest part of the Provisions, which Your Excellency Ordered to be provided for your own and Sir William's Regiments, and Stores are there provided to receive all the other Necessaries, which shall be sent there as fast as they arrive here.

I have viewed all the Grounds about Schenectady fit for Encamp-

ments, and three places which I think the most convenient I shall have Plans of, ready to lay before Your Excellency at New York. Col. Glen's House, which is the most convenient about Schenectady, will be proposed for Your Excellency's own quarters. I have also engaged for you a convenient House in this Town. A Number of People are at Work in the Wood Creek, and on the Carrying Place, to mend the Passage there which was the most needful to Osweego. Others are employed in making Passages thro' the most shallow Rifts in the Mohawk's River. I have directed two Store-houses to be built, one on each end of the Carrying place, of Strong Logs, Covered and floor'd with Bark, 35 feet Long and 20 feet broad. These will be sufficient, and the cost of them trifling, but it will be of great use that some Men encamp at each of the s^d Houses, until all the Stores are carried over. The Battoes are in great forwardness, the whole Number of them which Your Excellency Ordered will be ready at Schenectady within twenty days from this time, and every thing else which you have Ordered, I think may be there before that time, And I must take the Liberty of saying that I heartily wish Your Excellency with the Troops could be there about that time, many things make it necessary that no time be lost. The Water in the Mohawk's River and Wood Creek grows shallow about the middle and latter end of the Summer, which makes the Passage tedious. The French in Canada are not in the least apprized or apprehensive of any Attack from the English, but on the Ohio, and to the Eastward, The Troops going to Osweego is looked upon only as a Reinforcement of that Garrison, and Col. Johnson's Enterprise will be looked upon as only a design of building a strong Fort on the Carrying place, a Report of which they have had some time. The Govr of Canada has acquainted the Caghnawagas that he has nothing against it, if they don't come over the middle of the Carrying place, so far he allows the English to have right, but if they do he is determined to oppose with Force. This is what all the Caghnawagas lately here, and the French Gentleman mentioned in my last, Agree in.

I have obtained an actual Survey of Osweego and the Fort there, also an actual Survey of the greatest part of the way between that place and this. The Maps and Plans of which I shall have ready at New York. Several of the principal Indian Traders have promised me, that if Your Excellency Chuses it, they will attend You to Osweego, or where'ver else you please. Some of them may be of great use.

There are no Sailors to be had here, and I believe but few at New York; if You can get about 20 good ones from Boston We may, I believe, make up the remainder at about 50^s sterl. ℔ Month.

* Referred to in foregoing.

By a Sloop just arrived from New York, I have an account of the Arrival of a Vessel there in 28 days from London, and brings advice that a War is speedily expected.

If the Wind be fair, I shall set out for New York this afternoon.

I am, Sir, &c.

To Govr Shirley, at Boston.

New York, June 5th, 1755.

Sir,

The last Letter I wrote to Your Excellency, was of the 27th May, from Albany, by Ellick Thorp, that day I left Albany, and came here last Friday. Since that time, have been employed in dispatching from hence the Stores and Provisions for the Niagara Expedition, I hope the whole of those will be from hence by the end of this week.

Yesterday I received the Duplicate of your Excellency's favour of the 24th May, with the addition thereto, and Copy of your Letter to Govr De Lancey, 'tis likely that the Original of the Letter will not be produced to the Council or the World here, and that some kind of Excuse will be made to your Excellency for Oliver's Assertions in the presence of Mr. Fitch, perhaps evade it, Wherefore I shall not let them know that I have a Copy of that Letter, till 'tis probable they have wrote you in answer thereto, for Oliver has often since his Return from Connecticut, made the same Assertions here, with other things unbecoming him, and I doubt not but by his Answer, he will bring some Contradiction on himself, in the meantime, the matter shall be truly represented to the proper Persons here.

In my last Letter, I acquainted your Excellency that I had directed two Storehouses to be built on the Carrying place, but on talking to Col. Johnson about it, he told me he thought it would displease the Indians to do it without their Consent, and promised me he would use his Endeavours to obtain that, at the meeting of the Six Nations at his House, which is to be about this time, Wherefore I directed the matter to be suspended till then, and shall now write to Col. Johnston that it may go on.

We are now fitting out with Provisions and Necessarys, the 200 men for Sir Willm Pepperrell's Regiment, which your Excellency has Ordered to Encamp on the Carrying place, which shall all be ready to Morrow. But I don't expect they'l move from hence till Monday or Tuesday next, as some of the Officers for that Service are still out Recruiting. By Saturday, I hope to dispatch Capt. Broadly and Loforey, with all the Remainder of the Stores for the Vessels, and that they'l be so forward, to be at Schenectady ready to embark when the 200 men come there.

I am, Sir, &c.

To Govr Shirley, at Boston.

New York, June 7th, 1755.

Sir,

The foregoing is a Copy of my last, which went by Capt. Owen, (via Rhode Isle,) who is going by Order of Commodore Keppel to Funda Bay, to take the Command of the Vulture Sloop, the vacancy thereby made of the Officers of the Osweego and Ontario, is filled by Capt. Laforey, who is arrived here from the Commodore for that purpose.

Your Excellency's favour of the 2d I have, and shall immediately write to Mr. Stevenson, of Albany, to have materials ready, in case you should Order 100 Battoes more, and if you do determine to have them, it will be best to let Mr. Stevenson know of it direct from Boston, as it will save a good deal of time.

The Council here have on Friday last Agreed to spare your Excellency 7 of the 8 Brass Cannon here, six twelve Pounders, & one Eighteen Pounder. The Morning the Council agreed to it, Govr De Lancey told me he believed they would not agree to let either of the 18 Pounders go, On which I beg'd of him to endeavour to obtain the one which is lightest, and to represent to them that a Gun so fit for the Service, ought to go by all means, for its weight is but 25ct. The other I was not anxious about, as I believe it is quite too heavy for the Mohawks River, its weight is 38ct, which is a 1000 weight more than the Battoes can bear, and if they are made much larger, it will be impossible to get them thro' some of the short horns in the Wood Creek. Those seven brass Cannon were yesterday put on board a Sloop for Albany, also seven Iron nine Pounders, to be exchanged at Albany for six Pounders, (for the defence of Osweego,) there being no six Pounders here, the Carriages for the latter we had made here, & are also going up.

Mr. Morris and I now write to the Committee at Philadelphia, to proceed as you direct with regard to the Provisions. About 120 Barrels Beef which came from thence lately, we took into Store to wait your further orders, But we shall now send them to Mr. Emerson.

What Articles we have yet paid for, (of those your Excelly Ordd) We have taken Receipts on the Accounts, but for the future we shall pay all Accounts in the presence of one or two Witnesses, who may swear to the Bona fide Payment of them, and your Excelly may depend that We shall endeavour to have all our Accounts as clear and as well Vouched, as the nature of the Business will admit of.

We have inlisted 14 very good Seamen, at £3 10 0 this Currency per Month, besides two Riggers at £6 0 0, and a Gunner at £4 10 0, for the Osweego & Ontario, & hope to get some more in the Morning, and to send them all away with the Officers to morrow.

Since Writing the above, I recd your Excellys favour by Thorp, with the Copy of your Letter of the 1st to Govr De Lancey, and shall do therewith as you have directed.

I am, &c.

To Gov. Shirley, at Boston.

New York, June 9th, 1755.

Dear Sir,

I do almost deserve Your displeasure, but have hope that you will forgive me, for not writing you from time to time what is doing here, and that you will attribute it to my being necessarily out of Town, and in a great hurry of Business, which were the real Causes, and on promising very fairly, to write you hereafter as often as I can.

The best way now of letting you know what is done here by your Nephew Lewis and me towards the Niagara Expedition, is to send you Copies of our Letters to Govr Shirley, in which we have from time to time acquainted him what we were doing, of mine you have Copies herewith, and as it is Sunday, I can't at present send you Lewis', but you shall have them per next Conveyance. I know it will give you pleasure to hear that Govr Shirley expresses great satisfaction at what is done, which he does very politely in all his Letters to us.

By letters which we have from Boston by this Post, & by an Express this Evening, I find Govr Shirley's Regiment begins to move from thence to morrow, for Providence, where Vessels are ready to take them in. Capt. Kinneer is appointed Aid de Camp.

By the last Post, and again by this, I write to Mr. Turner about the Pork wanted for General Braddock, I also now write in behalf of Lewis & self, to Mr. Miflin & Co., advising them that we can purchase the like Quantity here. If you think more Pork will soon be wanting for General Braddock, we will secure a Quantity of it here.

Be pleased to let M^r. Tinker, Junr, know that Govr Shirley's Regiment will be here soon, and that it will be proper he brings with him the Men recruited by Rutherford, of Trentown, by order of Capt. Shirley, to join the Regiment here. I am not acquainted with that Gentlemen, or would not take this Liberty with you.

Be pleased to make my Compliments to Mr. Pownel. I don't expect to have time to write him by this post. Shall be Glad you would let him know how matters go on here.

Believe Dr Sir,
That I am,
Your affectionate & obliged,
Humble Servt,
WM. ALEXANDER.

To His Excellency,
Robert Hunter Morris, Esq.

Indorsed.
William Alexander, with Copys of his letters to Govr Shirley.

Matthew Leslie to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Lancaster, June 10th, 1755.

Sir,

I propose Seting out for Will's Creek this Day, and as I have not heard from Philadelphia, what Money I have occasion for, I will give Draughts on Mr. Shippen, for as you proposed, I Don't Certainly know what Sums I may have Occasion for, but I believe between two or three Hundred pounds will be the Most, unless they have Done something for me at Carlisle, where I propose Stoping to send some wheat from thence to the Camp, Ordered by the Comittee. I will call at Shippenstown & go on by the new road, to be able to Let the General know what is Doing at those places. I am greatly obliged to you for the trouble you have taken to Assist me on this Service, & am with the Greatest respect, Sr.,

Your Most Obedt,
Humble
Servt,
MATT'W LESLIE.

Direction.

To The Honourable Robt. Hunter Morris, Esqr,
Governour of Pensilvania.

Indorsed.

Capn. Leslie, May 10th, 1755.

Gov. Morris to the Committee of Assembly, 1755.

Philad'a, 10 June, 1755.

Gentlemen,

Captain Ord who is come here from Newfound Land, with thirteen non commissioned Officers, and is Going to Genl. Braddock to command the train, has apply'd to me for Waggons to Carry the men & their Baggage and some Artillery Stores, which he brings for the use of the Army to the Camp, and for a Carriage for himself, being not used to riding & Very much fatigued.

It will be very Agreeable to the General that he should receive all the dispatch Possible, as his service is of great Consequence to the Army. I therefore recommend it to you to provide a Couple of Wag-

* See Colon. Rec. Vol. VI. p. 417.

gons & Chaises, & please to let me know when they are ready, that the men at least may go off the moment they are provided. I am

Gentlemen,

your Humble servt,

ROBT. H. MORRIS.

Indorsed.

Coppy to the Committee. Jan. 10th, 1755.

W. Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1755.

June 11, 1755.

Dear Morris :

With this you will receive ye General's answer to yours, wch in ye Hurry we are in, is not So full as it should be. You will receive £4000 St. before this comes to your Hands, wch I observe is sufficient only for ye Contracts for Provision. Your Business is to make your Demand for ye Expence of Forage as soon as you can. We begun our March yesterday, both Brigades having set out a day before us. We are got about 5 Miles; Measures will be taken, I believe, immediately for going on with more Expedition for ye future. You, with Mr. Peters, have done us infinite service, and we are bound ever to thank you in a publick Character; Myself in a private one, am as always Since I knew you

Most Affectionately, Yours,

W. SHIRLEY.

Govr Morris.

A Party goes at last to guard ye Workers upon ye Road, as to that propos'd to Venango & Niagara I suppose it will be examined when we get forwarder. It is propos'd that we set forward to morrow with a Detachmt of 1000 Men, ye best of ye Troops, and take only a few necessary Waggons & every thing possible on Horses, to wch every will contribute such as they have, except one for their own riding. This is a good Scheme, & ye way to do our Business, the Remr of ye Forces will be left to escort ye Baggage after us. But you'l take no Notice of my Sending you this advice.

Indorsed—

On His Majys Service. To the Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Lieut. Governor of Pensilvania, &c.

Wm. Shirley, Esqr., that the army had moved from fort Cumberland. June 11, 1755.

Gov. Morris to Mr. Fox, 1755.*

Philad^a, June 13th, 1755.

Sir:

Cap^n Ord tells me that the two Waggons provided for him went of this Morning in your Presence, & that the Baggage & stores with the Great quantity of Provinder which the Waggoners put in on their own Account, filled them so full that there was no room for his men to go in Either of them, so that they was put under the necessity of Marching on foot in this Very hot season, & if they should receive Injury in the March, he shall be obliged to press for another.

He further acquaints me that he is himself Extremely Effected with the heat of the Weather, Owing, as he thinks, to his sudden transission from so cold a climate as that of New found land to this Very hot one, and least the Service should suffer through his Indesposition, he finds himself Obliged to request a shase & horse as far as Lancaster.

He must go this afternoon, haveing been already detained here too long, so that I must beg the favour of your answer by the bearer, that he may take his measures accordingly.

Indorsed.

Dft. to M^r. Fox. June 13th, 1755.†

Edward Shippen to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Lancaster, 13th June, 1755.

Honoured Sir:

The Post not being returned from Philadelphia, I am uncertain whether my last by him came to your Honours hands. The Business of this is to inclose an Advertisement which was just now brought to me by M^r. Reads Prentice, which, in my opinion, ought to be a little amended, or I apprehend scarcely a fourth part of the Waggons wanted for carrying the Provisions to Shippensburg can be procured. From Shippensburg to John Harris's Ferry, at Sasquehannah, is 38 miles, and from thence to this Borough is 35½, & from thence to Philadelphia is 66½, measured miles, making in the whole 140 miles. The Stated Price of Carriage, from Harris's Ferry to Philadelphia, is 4*s* 6 in the Summer and 5*s* in the Spring & Fall; and from Shippensburg to Philadelphia, is 7*s* 6 ℔ 100 Pounds, neat Weight; and I have many times had my Skins lying in these places some weeks, because I could not promise that the Waggons should be loaded back again, & they were very plenty at the same time; and it is a Common thing to pay the Ferriage at Susquehan-

* Per Indorsement.

† See Col. Rec. Vol. VI., p. 417.

nah, when the River is not Fordable. If your Honour should conclude my Observation worthy of your attention, Mr. Peters may write to Mr. Read, that in Case any Objection should be made to the price he may advance upon it as shall be thought proper, I beg your Honours Pardon for this Freedom. It is owing to my great Zeal for the Common Cause that makes me so very Officious, and as I would cast in my mite, I am to acquaint your Honour that I have a Strong Stone House, 30 feet Square, at the back Run at Shippensburg, at the Generals Service; & if two Strong Seven & Sixpenny padlocks were purchased of Mr. Hugh Roberts, and sent there, I would give Orders to have them put on the Doors that the Provisions may be kept safe.

Labourers come in but Slow, having sent away only 40 since the Advance Money came; however, as I imagine, Mr. Burd has now upwards of 200 men at Work, the General I hope will have no reason to complain, for I am informed they proceed very briskly towards Youyougaining, and if any more should come in my absence my Clerk can send them forward.

I purpose to go into the Woods towards the Camp next Wednesday, I only wait for the Money to pay Capt. Leslies Bills on me for £260, payable at ten days sight. He and my Son Jo went off for the Camp four days ago. If you should not find a good opportunity to send me the Money before I go, Please to order it into the hands of my Clerk, William Atlee, and he will pay the Bills.

I am with due esteem,

Your Honours

most Obedient Hum. Servt,

EDWD. SHIPPEN.

I shall be absent near a month. I expect Doctor Shippen will set off for this place next Sunday or Monday.

To the Honourable the Governor.

Indorsed.

Edward Shippen. 12 June, 1755.

Gov. De Lancey to Gov. Morris, 1755.

New York, 13 June, 1755.

Sir:

This day I received the inclosed letters from Capt. Bradstreet, Commanding officer at Oswego, which I forward to you by Express; he acquaints me that on the 25th of May, twelve Battoes, with French, passed Oswego, on the 27th eleven, & on the 29 eleven; these last had nine small cannon on board, that there were more men preparing at Cataragui & Montreal, that the French use all their arts to

engage the Indians against General Braddock, & tell them they will send the whole force of Canada against him; he tells me also, that on the 29th May he had sent an express cross the Country to General Braddock, to give him the like account. I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient &

most humble Servant,

JAMES DE LANCEY.

I have inclosed a Copy of Capt. Bradstreet's letter* to me to Genl Braddock.

Govr Morris.

Indorsed.

Govr De Lancey. 13 June, 1755.

Charles Swaine to Gov. Morris, 1755.

May it please your Honour.

I arrived at this place on Monday and judge there are sufficient buildings for storeing the Provisions, without erecting any; these will want but a small repair except the fastenings, and to be had on very easy terms, as they are left to be possessed by almost any one who will inhabit them & the Owners do not seem inclined to take any advantage of their being wanted on this ocasion. I find not above two pastures here, & those but mean as to grass from the drougth, but there is a fine range of Forage for upwards of four miles in the woods, quite to the foot of the South mountain; also, a good run of water, that the Cattle will be continually improveing after they come here. I shall use the methods practiced here for keeping their beast together, have a constant watch on them and daily see to them myself. I can find but little cellaring here, for securing the pork, but have pitched on a shady and dry spot in the woods for making a cellar, for what I cannot stow in such cellars as are in the Town. There are no bricks here & little lime at present, so the making Ovens would be difficult, & if made of clay, then there would be some Iron work wanting. But if his Excellency hath ordered bread, as I mentioned in my former letter, I believe it may be contracted for in Lancaster County.

The principal expence which seems to attend the Magazine here, will be the Hire of some persons to attend the Cattle, also to watch the Stores & pork, for they assure me there are many ill disposed persons in those parts, who would both take the pork & break into

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. VI., pp. 412, 427.

the stores if not watched. I shall act with the greatest prudence and regard as to the expence, in this or any other part of my commission, and in takeing care to make no further expence than what is imediately necessary. Quarter Master Lesly called on me yesterday, & informed me he had seen Scot the Millar, who desired Mr. Leslie to acquaint me he had bought up almost as much wheat as to make the flower I should want. The Coopers in these parts have plantations, & they but ocasionally work at their trade, have at present but few staves by them, those thin and green, & it would take up a considerable time to procure any Quantity. The mills also here, have no Bolting Cloaths, so that they make only a coarse flower. I can hear nothing as to the express, any more than that he is arrived at the Camp, but I propose If I do not see him to day to return towards Lancaster in hopes to find your Honour's orders, and also give an account per post, of what is done as to the Flower.

Your Honour's
most Obedient & Dutiful
Servant,
CHARLES SWAINE.

Shippensberg,
June 14, 1755.

Gov. Morris to W. Shirley, 1755.

Philad^a. June 16th, 1755.

Dear Shirley,

You must excuse me if I am at all times shorter to you in my letters than I could wish, but I have so many things in hand that I am obliged to let Business take place of friendship and affection. I give you some hints in my last about my assembly and their views, & when we meet shall show you the People of this country in their true light, which one that has nothing to do with them, and only observes them, as a bystander will never be able to do.

I write the Genl with a letter of Intelligence from Bradstreet, by which you will see what the French are doing, at least that they are sending numbers towards the Ohio, but whether they will make their stand at Fort Duquesne or at Niagara, is not easy to determine. I heartily wish your father was in motion, which I dont Imagin he will be till towards the End of the month, what retards him I know not, I think he should not let the domestick affairs of his own Province do it. Pepperill seems to have been asleep till within this little time, or he might have had his regiment full, your father in a letter to me talks of augmenting his forces, and you will see by Alexander's letters that he has Orderd one hundred additional

Battoes, where he is to get men for this augmentation I cant imagine, unless he weakens Johnson which I think he should not, and if he is to loose any time about it he had better be without than with his augmentation.

As soon as my assembly are adjourned & I have wrote some letters to England I shall make a Visit to the back parts of this Province, and it is not Impossible if the new road and the army have Joyn'd, but I may ask you how you do, but this is far from being determined on, my business is to see that all matters relative to the Magzine are executed according to my Orders, and that the new road is properly made, and to have it mended where it is not so.

I shall send fifty fat Oxen from hence to morrow, and fifty more in ten days thereafter, I have Pastures ready for their reception in the neighbourhood of Shippensburg, from whence the Gen[l] may have them drove to the camp whenever he pleases by ordering Charles Swain to send them, who is the Person I have employed to take care of them and other things, and who I have ordered to attend constantly that the Gen[ls] directions may be Immmediately carryed into Execution; I have more to say to you than many sheets of Paper will hold or than I can possibly reduce to black and white. Franklin tho' a man of extraordinary ability and most extensive genius, Has very out of the way notions of the power of the People, and is as much a favourer of the unreasonable claims of American Assembly as any man whatever, he is indeed against the Quakers in opinion in point of defence, and would wish them less in power in this Province than they are, but you are sensible that will be only changing hands.

My best regards attend upon my friend Orme, to whom I have not time to write, and beg you will excuse me to him, and believe me Dear Shirley most heartily and

Affectionately yours,
ROBT. H. MORRIS.*

Indorsed.—Copy to William Shirley.

EXTRACT.—EDWARD SHIPPEN TO WM. ALLEN, 1755.

Shippensburg, 30 June, 1755.

Dear Cousin,

The reason of Sending this Letter is to acquaint you that Mr. Joseph Simons is just come from the Little Meadows and assures me that last Monday the Indians killed 6 men, women and Children, & on Wednesday they killed 7 more, he Saw one man who made his escape who was Shot in ye mouth & thigh; and a boy was knoct down & thought to be dead & Scalped, & afterwards coming to him-

* See Col. Rec. Vol. VI., p. 430.

self ran into Potowmock, and in a short time called aloud for assistance; the boy saw the Indian Scalping his mother as he was coming to.

The General it is Supposed is by this Time a few miles beyond the Great Meadows; He has but 30 days provisions with him, his dependance is upon having continual Supplies from this Province, but there is a good Quantity still at Will's Creek, but I doubt without a Guard of a hundred men, at least they will be intercepted on ye road. Captain Hog with his Company is with the Road cutters; and whilst Mr. Burd was absent last week riding about Conneocheeg with me last Monday to get waggons to carry provisions to feed ye men and ye Soldiers; for those people had but a day & a half provisions when he came away, I say in his absence there were 14 of Captain Hogs men deserted, as Justice Allison, (of Lancas^tr County) Says, & more were expected to go every day, a melancholy Story indeed! I am exceeding Sorry that it has not been practicable to Send up 200 persons for ye road Cutters. John Potter ye Sheriff tells me that his Son and a few more ought to be set off to morrow with 40 head of Cattle to Support ye Road Cutters & Capt. Hog's men; but that the people are so alarmed about ye Indians that he cannot think it safe to venture them out unless he can intercede with twenty or thirty of his neighbours to guard them. Potter is going to Carlisle to day, but I have prevailed upon him to write to ye Justices & his friends at Connecocheeg, to assist in that affair, as he is obliged to hold a Vendue to morrow 10 miles below Carlisle, and I shall enforce what he writes. As much in a hurry as ye bearer is I am prevailing with him to have a little more patience. If money could be raised to pay a hundred men for 3 months, it would be a most extraordinary Thing. A Subscription might do a good deal towards it, and the Assembly might do Something handsome that way; the business of these 100 Men is to pass and re-pass with ye waggons to and from the General, and indeed it is my opinion that ye Amunition ought Speedely to be Sent to ye Road Cutters to keep up their Spirits, for if Captain Hog's men Should continue to desert, I am apprehensive that unless Mr. Burd's workmen can be put in a posture defence they will run away homewards; but I hope this can be prevented. I came up here to try to way lay some of our Traders, Perhaps it may be impossible to effect my Scheme if approved of; but then I shall have the Satisfaction to reflect that I have been quite Silent in ye affair, my Son Jo. and Daughter Salley join with me in Our kind Love to your self, wife, Anne Allen & Cousins.

I am, D^r. S^r.,

Your affectionate Kinsman,

EDW'D. SHIPPEN.

P. S. The People were murdered but 4 miles from Will's Creek.

Directed—To William Allen, Esquire, Chief Justice of the Province of Pennsylvania.*

Indorsed.—Edward Shippen, 5 June, 1755, to Mr. Allen, Forwarded by Sr yr Hble Servt, Joseph Simons.

Edward Shippen to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Lancaster, July, 1755.

Honoured Sir,

When you mentioned to me my going up towards Sasquehannah to look for Pasturage for about 80 Cattle, I had forgot that Mr. Hamilton was come up here to get me to assist him in settling his Affairs; however, as I know of but three ffarmers that way, to whom to apply, I wrote to two of them, Barney Hughes & John Harris, & desired them to Speak to John Semple, & inclosed is their Answers. The Latter has large Meadows of Timothy & clover, but he has not mowed them yet, and there can be no good pastures till that is done. I have a great deal of business to do preparatory to our Court, which begins on the first Tuesday of the next month; but if you are resolved to direct Mr. Swaine to bring that quantity of Cattle this way, pastures must be provided; but you will see by Mr. Hughes' Letter, that we cannot be Supplied sooner than in two weeks Time. It is reported that the road Cutters are returned as far as M'Dowel's Mill except Mr. Burd who chose to go to fort Cumberland, and I suppose he is at home by this time. And, indeed, Mr. Hamilton has a Letter from Carlisle to this purpose. After our Court is over, I must go to Philada to Settle the Partnership business between Mr. Thos Lawrence & my Self; but notwithstanding, if you think I can be of any real Service by going to procure pastures, & by riding to Shippensburg to encourage the People to erect the Fort, I will Strain a point and undertake that business.

I think Barney Hughes & John Semple, with John Harris, to be very Suitable men to take care of the Cattle, on this side of the River; And that Tobias Hendricks is a proper person to have ye Management of them, if you should conclude to bring them no farther than to his house; and he lives on the Mannor. But in this last case, Mr. Swaine ought to view ye food in the Mannor himselfe. Please to send me a full answer by the Post, & I will endeavour to obey your Instructions, with chearfulness, I am

Your Honour's most Obedient,
Humble Servt.,
EDWD. SHIPPEN.

Directed—
"To The Honorable Robert Hunter Morris, Esquire,
"Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania."

* The paragraph omitted relates entirely to the sickness of his son.

Gov. Morris to Sir Thomas Robinson, 1755.

Philad^a July 3d, 1755.

Sir,

I think it my duty, by a ship that sails this day for London, to inform you that Genl Braddock, with the troops under his immediate command, which are in very good health, moved from fort Cumberland on the 10th Instant; that on the fifteenth he was at the Meadows, and I have reason to believe is at this time within ten days of fort Duquesne, having met with no opposition. He has been disappointed as to Provisions, forage, and Carriages from Virginia and Maryland, and now depends upon this Province for them all; he has been supply'd from hence wth waggons & forage, & I am laying in a magazine of Provisions in the back parts of this Province, and opening a road from hence to the waters of the Ohio. I wish my Assembly would have enabled me to have done these things at the expence of the Province, or even have regulated the Hire of waggons and price of provisions, but they have done nothing but promise to bear the Charge of opening the road, which I much doubt whether they will perform, and as to every thing else are stil in the same ungiving temper, & will raise money upon no terms but such as will increase and render permanent their own power and lessen the authority of the Crown & Government.

Governor Shirley's regim^t is gone up Hudson's river, and will be at Albany in a few days, and he will soon be there himself; two Companys of Sr William Peperell's regiment are already at Oswego, with one of the Independ^t Companys, two more are gone to secure the Carrying place from the head of the Mohocks river to the Wood creek, and the remainder will soon move towards Oswego. Every thing necessary for the Niagara Expedition is ready at the places appointed, and the two schooners building at Oswego will be fit for service in about a month from this time.

Coll. Johnson is now in treaty with the Six Nations who have obey'd his Summons, and he thinks the event of his Negotiation will be much to our advantage. He proposes to take a large body of the Mohocks with him ag^st Crown point, for which place the Provincial troops are upon their March, and He Expects soon to Joyn them. The garrison there is said to be small, But its nearness to Montreal will enable the French to reinforce it as soon as they are informed of the design to attack it; it is indeed reported y^t Six Hundred Men are already arriv'd there, but not in such a manner as to gain entire Credit, tho' it may be true.

M^r. Penn will lay before you Copys of the Letters I have receiv'd from General Braddock & my Answers. You will observe y^t in one of them He was pleased to tell me y^t if he took ye Forts or should build any on that River he could not leave his own Cannon, nor spare Provisions for the Garrisons, and therefore demanded

that these might be supply'd by ye three contiguous Provinces, Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania

This I thought requir'd ye imediate Consideration of ye Assembly, & therefore conven'd them by Summons, & pressed them to enable me to do in concert wth ye other two Provinces what ye General expected, & at ye same time imparted to them Inteligence of ye French having sent Reinforcem^ts^ to ye Ohio, & of their publishing their Design to intercept the General's Convoys as well as destroy ye back Inhabitants; but with all this they were no otherwise affected than to offer me one of ye same sort of Bills they had twice presented to me before, wch I amended in all ye p'ticulors, against wch there lay any reasonable Obj^ts^; with this treatment of their Bill, they were so dissatisfied as to adjourn themselves to ye 1st Sep'ber, without making any provision to ye several matters so earnestly recommended to them. The Messages y^t^ have pass^d^ betw^n^ us, together with Others as presented and amended, I have sent to M^r^. Penn, who will lay them before you.

I intended to have troubled you with some observations upon the Assembly's Issuing bills, notes of Credit, in Lieu of money by their own Authority, and ordering them to be taken in all Publick Payments, But my time will not permit me.

I have the Honour to be, Sir,

Your Most Obed^t^ Humble Servt.

Indorsed.—Draft Gov^rs^. Letter to Sr Thos. Robinson.

Thomas Penn to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Sir:

In my Letter of the 21st of March,* I acknowledged the receipt of several of yours to the 8th of January, since that time I have not been able to write on the several matters contained in the Letters I have received from you, as the notice I have had of Ships being to sail for New York and other Ports was so short, I had only time to write on particular subjects. I now acknowledge the receipt of your Letters, a duplicate of the 8th of January; the 30th of January and its duplicate; the 9th of April, the 15th of May, and its duplicate;† the 30th of May and its duplicate, and the 25th of the same month, with the several messages that have passed between you and the Assembly, Coppys of Mr. Shirley's, Braddock's, and other Letters sent with them.

The Plan of operation concerted at Alexandria being communicated to me by Mr. Peters in your absence, arrived so as to enable me to give the first intelligence of its being resolved upon to the Lords of the Regency, Mr. Braddock not having, I suppose, an opportunity of writing by Virginia; it is indeed a fine Plan, and if our Fleet can prevent supplys being thrown into Canada, I hope to see

* See page 275. † p. 286, 311.

it executed; I have also communicated your later intelligence in such manner, as that whatever Services are done, it may be known to whom the publick is indebted for them. Sir Thomas Robinson took down the first account himself to Lay before the Board, and I have sent him extracts of the last Letters I have received, by which they will see how undutifully our Assembly Act; you and the officers of Government are doing every thing in your power for the general Service.

The money given at last by the Assembly, tho' in a manner so irregular and improper, has very much altered the stile of talking of them; the manner of appropriating the money they do not Yet enter into, but expect as they have been forced to contribute something, they will continue to assist the Service, in furnishing money and provisions; you will see by the answer Sir Thomas Robinson gives you, whether they choose to enter into any arguments about the encroachments of the Assembly, I think they will rather leave that to us, as thinking the Ministers can only determine a matter of that sort Judicially on an application to the Crown. I am very much pleased with the method the Assembly has taken of giving money out of their own stock, and thank you for your congratulations upon it; I think it will oblige them to accept money Bills on our Terms, but if they choose to strike paper money on the same fund to take up these notes on interest, that you should readily pass it, but as they have taken their own way of issuing it, they should be obliged to sink it out of the same money, and not be allowed to sink it by a future excise Bills, and keep the money arising from their present funds at their own disposal.

I desired Mr. Peters to acquaint you, that on conversing with the Secretary of State on your having laid his and Mr. Braddock's Letters before the Assembly, he was of opinion you should not take that method for the future, but send the Substance in Messages; and if the House expressed a desire of further satisfaction, that you might send for the Speaker and two or three principal Members, and shew the paragraphs containing what you are to communicate to the Assembly to them, and not the Letter, as it is possible there may be other matters mentioned not necessary to be shewn to them.

I find it likewise his opinion, that you should avoid as much as possible all Arguments about lesser matters, and confine your Self to inforce the demands made, without following them thro' every part of their message, which they perplex as much as possible, in order to throw on you a charge of ill-treatment to excuse themselves. Mr. Paris sent you, by way of New York, the Report of the Board of Trade, in which you will see the opinion of that Board to be, that they did not intend to assist the Service; I think we could not wish for a better Report; the proceedings of the House must convince every Reader that they wished to save their money, and plainly gives the Lye to their professions of chearfully and readyly giving to the King's Service. When the Council will take this into consideration

I cannot tell; my Lord President went into the Country for two or three weeks yesterday, and it cannot be done 'til after that time; when he returns I shal apply for a day, as I think the sooner the Petition is rejected the better, tho' I hope the Report will have a good effect. When I received the account of the Assembly's having given £10,000 for Mr. Shirley's expedition, and sent provisions to Mr. Braddock, &c., I waited on Sr Thomas Robinson, my Lord President, & the Duke of Newcastle, they all shewed the satisfaction it gave them to find we had brought the Assembly to do something, and the last told me he was glad to find our province had done *so well* at last, I think if they would appropriate £10,000 more at the next sitting out of an Excise Bill for five years for General Braddock, and leave the rest to be appropriated by Law, we should stand pretty well here for the present, not that I think they should defer bu'ing Arms and putting the Country into a condition of defence, or conceive such a Sum must free them from after demands, for provisions for another campain; I would have them do what they can, but not have the expectations of our superiours raised so high as to be disappointed; and with regard to a Tax, I think it better to make use of the funds we have first, and not have recourse to a Tax 'til it cannot be avoided.

Your observation of the impropriety of suffering an Assembly to raise what money they please on their Vote, independent of the Governor, is very just, and dangerous to the Government; this we must prevent for the future, which you know by our Scheme will be effectually done, and I shal very soon make the Ministers acquainted with it, who you may be very certain will never patronize such a Scheme as theirs. Our province in general was so much blamed for not affording some supplys, that I thought it proper to mention what they gave, without saying a great deal about the manner of it, that it might be seen our repeated applications had been attended with some success.

Your management with the Assembly is greatly to our satisfaction, particularly with regard to our instructions, which no one here thinks they have any right to demand. I cannot yet say how far you have a right to the sight of the Minutess of the House every night, not having an opportunity yet of consulting any proper person on that point; I think the printer ought not to have printed the Letter after you had forbid him, and had he considered himself the King's Servant, I suppose he would not have done it, but the Assembly ought to have sent you their Votes before they were printed.

I have heard nothing of late of the Union, nor was there any proposal made in parliament of that kind; I imagine whenever that shal be done it will be executed by military officers, and when such a thing is under consideration I shal communicate your thoughts in your Letter of the 30th of January.

I should have told you that the Council for the Assembly were

very explicit on the impropriety of the King's instructions, which made some of the Friends report in the City they had the better of the Argument, not considering it was foreign to the subject matter of the Petition.

Your message on summoning the Assembly on General Braddock's arrival was very propper. I believe your communicating his Letter has occasioned some complaint here, I cannot otherwise account how Sir Thomas Robinson should have a coppy of his Letter to you, unless he has orders to send coppys of all he writes, or that the Assembly have order'd their Agent to complain of their being misrepresented. I think you had some reason to believe his Letter would have had a good effect on the Assembly, and it is looked upon in that light here.

I am very much pleased to find your Congress at Alexandria ended so much to the satisfaction of the members that composed it, which I have mentioned when I thought it proper to speak of such matters, and that you accompanied Mr. Shirley to New Jersey, when your proposed alteration of their plan was of so much service. I shal wait with impatience for an account of the Troops marching, and beginning their operations, and of an English Flag sailing on the Lakes.

The Report of the Committee of Assembly on our answer to their representation, is the most unjust and wicked that I think can be drawn upp, and tho' it may not affect us in the opinion of Men of candour and decernment, yet we shall soon send some answer to it.

I find the service done in procuring Wagons and Horses, was very acceptable, as will your having settled a supply of Forage, which I received an account of but three or four days since, but am sorry to hear the people of New York are so backward in making good their engagements.

I have not had any application from Mr. Allen or any other Person about my Share in the Gap Mine, but shal write to Mr. Peters about it. I do not choose to sell my share, would rather let it, but should be glad to know what is proposed as the conditions, and you may be assured I shal rather let it to you than another, but I think the rest of the Owners will apprize me of their plan when they propose to work it again.

I have examined the Survey of the Road, and sent it to the Secretary of State, by it I find the Fort further north than I apprehended, as is the River Potowmeck; the Fort I thought had been south of the north bend of that River many miles; this work gives great satisfaction, but I am not certain whether this Fort is on the Ohio.

I am much pleased to find Col. Schuyler has the command of the Jersey Forces, I have mentioned him here as a man that may be of great use.

A Bill to prevent the importation of Germans, and to regulate that Trade, is very much to be wished for, if you can induce the Assembly to frame one free from all reasonable objections, those

you have made to that sent you upp by the House, were no doubt very propper ones, and it would be very impropper to pass such an one as you describe that to be; I have this winter had several meetings with Dr. Hales, who gives such instances of the great service Ventilators are on board, that I recommend it to you to advise and consider whether it would not be propper to oblige all Vessels bringing Palatines, to have them and to blow them for half an hour or an hour every day, when the weather will permit.

Your last message to the Assembly was very propper, and I think they will not gain any advantage by their reply, for tho' they have given something, it is so small a sum, given in such a manner, and they have so plainly refused to put their Country into a condition of defence, that it is very little other than not contributing at all to the defence of their Country, but you see by their answers, that you must be very exact in what you say to them, as they make use of so pedling a Stile. There is one good expression in the last Message of the Assembly, which is that they have engaged to defray the whole expence of making the new Road. I think if you make any observations on their last Message, you should, in answer to the latter part, make a difference between the people and their Representatives, so as not to suppose the people, were they not misinformed, would approve of their proceedings, this paragraph is the most false representation of themselves that words can express, for surely never was a set of people that had more joy in disputation, or were more practised in the sleights and artifices of Controversy.

We are extreamly well satisfied with your proceedings in the Connecticut business, and think you could not have done anything more in it. As for making a purchase of these worthless Indians, 'til they have demanded the Deed from the people of Connecticut, I think it is throwing away the consideration money; by Mr. Peters's account, the best of them have been dishonest, and taken money; with regard to them, I think if Conrad Weyser had gone up to Onondago after giving them notice of his intention, it would have been better, than to send for any of them down, it is justice we have to demand of them for breach of Contract, and then a purchase and firm Treaty of Friendship for the future, and I think the best way to secure them if a general purchase should be concluded, is not to give them the purchase money in a short time, but give them according to a List of Goods, to the value of two or three hundred pound Currency, every three years forever, not money but the Goods specifyed, this will preserve a kind of dependence on us; what they want now is to get what they can, as they may think by our former manner of proceeding in military matters, the French will not suffer them to have any more Land Treatys, and therefore it is best to get what they can; they cannot now want, having had more presents within these two or three years, than for ten years before. When a purchase is made, I would not have it in words too particular, but to extend to the Northern boundary of the province of Pennsylvania,

without any mention of a degree, and will be a release of their claim to all the Land within that Province. I had rather avoid making the Government of New York privy to it, as they expect we shal confine our purchase to the forty-second degree, whereas we shal certainly expect three degrees. Mr. Paris advises us at present not to make application to the Crown for orders to prevent the settlement of the Connecticut people, but to take them upp, and from some Tryal bring it over; I shal however advise further very soon, if Lord Baltimore did not stand in my way, I would prosecute the petition that has lain so long, at least to settle the boundary between us and New York. I think we should insist that the Six Nations send to the Government of Connecticut, and demand the Deed; Mr. Peters gave me expectation that he would seize on Lydius, and prosecute him; if that can be done, and he has the Deed in possession, it might conduce to their giving it upp. I think the custom of private Treaty's with the Indians, of dangerous consequence, and see very plainly the delay that is given to the Settlement of the difference between the Proprietors and the Jersey Rioters, will encourage settlements to be made that may occasion disturbances equal to a civil War. There is however a difference between the two, the Connecticut people must establish a Government, which is much more unsafe than to settle under an Indian right.

As the Assembly have adjourned themselves to the 1st of September, you will have time enough to advise and consider how to proceed, but I think you may very safely insist on the appropriation, if they come to your term of five years; they behave in all their disputes in so unfair a manner, that cannot but provoke a man accustomed to act a fair candid part, and make it necessary for him to be constantly on his guard against such provocations.

In pressing the Assembly to put the Country into a posture of defence, if you should think it necessary again to do it, I think you should avoid saying any thing more of the state in which it is, as I find the Ministers imagine too much has been said on that subject, as every thing is printed in our Colonys, and of course our weakness the more exposed to the French, this has been the case perhaps of some other Colonys.

We do not now talk of declaring War, a fine Fleet is ready at Spithead, and your proceedings in America will determine it no doubt by the Fall.

Lady Juliana desires me to return you her thanks for your compliments, &c., I remain,

Sir,

Your very affectionate Friend,

THO. PENN.

Badywick, July 2, 1755.

I desire you will send me back the two old Law Books I sent you to peruse on your Voyage. I have directed Mr. Peters and Mr

Hockley to desire your advice in the manner of proceeding to require payment of the arrears of Rent, and in case of non compliance, to begin in the City of Philadelphia, and distrain on some of the greatest delinquents, this I think it propper they should do without delay.

Indorsed.—Tho. Penn. July 2d, 1755.

Gov. Morris to Gen. Braddock, 1755.

Sir,

The post Brought me your favour of the 21st of June, and you may be assured that nothing on my part shall be wanting to contribute to your success by a regular supply of the Provisions you have ordered.

I have already sent to Shippensburgh 213 barrells of as good pork as ever was cut, each barrell being full, trimd with Hoops, so that they will not suffer by carriage, which pork is very apt to do if the Casks are not well secured; also, 56000lb wt of flower, and one Hundred head of oxen. These things are ready to be delivered when ever you please, and will remain at Shippensburgh till I go up into the Country, which will be on Tuesday next, and then I shall form the Magazine at or near McDowalls mill, and put some stucado's round it to protect the Magazine, and the people that will have the care of it; for without something of the kind, as we have no militia, and the Assembly will mentain no men, four or five Indians may distroy the Magazine whenever they Please, as the inhabitants of that part of the Province are very much scatterd. Inclosed I send you a plan of the fort or stucado, which I shall make by setting Logs of about ten foot long in the ground, so as to inclose the store houses. I think to place two swivel guns in two of the oposite Bastions, which will be sufficient to guard it against any attack of small arms.

Upon your letter of ye 24 of May, I summond my Assembly and laid the matter before them that you recomended, as you will see by my Messages relating to that affair, and upon the intelligence I rece'd from Bradstreet. I recomended it to them, to enable me to mentain a number of men to escort the Provisions to you from time to time, but they are still in such a temper that they will do nothing, and have not even made me an answer to my Messages upon these Heads, but adjournd themselves to the first of Sepr. I think it necessary to inform you of this, that you may not depend upon me for what my Assembly will not enable me to do, I have laid their conduct in this particular before the Secretary of State, which I hope you will also do, and am writing to the government of Virginia and Maryland, to let them know that this Province will contribute no part of what you demanded, that they may do the more. It gives

me great concern that I am disabled from affording you the assistance my inclinations would lead me to do, by a set of men that seem to have no regard for his Majestys service or the security of their country, and who never will act a dutyfull & reasonable part till they are compelled by act of Parliament.

Govr Shirley arrived at New York, in his way to Albany, on the 2^d Instant, where he proposed to stay only 24 hours, and to proceed directly to Albany. He writes me from Boston, of ye 23^d of June, that he had certain accounts of a French fleet being within 40 leagues of Louisburgh, on ye 5 of June, and I have accounts to be depended on, that Ad^l Boscawen, with ten sail of the Line, was off of S^t. Johns, Newfoundland, on the 3^d of June, three of his fleet being then missing; and last night I received news that the French fleet was in the harbour of Louisburgh, with four thousand land forces, and that Boscawen was before it with 13 Ships of the line and 1600 Marines; this news, I think, may be depended upon, tho' it is not yet absolutely certain; upon this intelligence I shall Lay an embargo upon all Provisions that the French fleet may not be supplyd by the Dutch or ourselves, and shall write to Comodore Kepnell to enforce my orders for that Purpose, by stationing a small vessell near the mouth of this river. This Gov. Shirley has already done at Boston, and I hope he will have influence enough with M^r. De Lancey to prevail with him to do it to.

From the best accounts I can get of the new road and of the Country between, where they are now at work, and your rout, I am of opinion the intersection must be at or near the Great Crossing which I am told is within three miles of the junction of the three branches of the Ohiogany that form the Turkeys foot, but I have directed the Commissioners upon the spot to examine the Country, and find out where the two roads may best and most conveniently meet and to write you a very particular account, not only of the place of their meeting, but of the time when by their Judgment they will have opened the Communication, and to send you a draft of the whole which, that you may the better understand, I send you herewith Evans's map, now publishing, which is not yet complete, that it might be usefull to you. I got this sheet printed off on purpose. I am obliged to you for the guard you have ordered to Cover the workers upon the road. I have an account of this arrival, and have orderd them to be victualed, and the officers to be supplyd in the best manner the nature of their situation will admit of. I write to Capt. Hogg, to send one of his officers to you with ye report of the Commissions about the Junctions of the roads, that you may be fully informed as to any particulars, as the Commissions may be silent about. I shall write you soon from Shippensburg, and in the mean time am,

S^r, Yours, &c.

Indorsed—D^ft Gov^rs Letter to Genl Braddock.
3^d July, 1755.

Wm. Alexander to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Dear Sir,

My last Letter to you was of the 22d June, nothing should have prevented my Writing to you since, but the want of time. Gen[l] Shirley arrived at New York last Wednesday evening, and embarked again for Albany on Friday in the evening, Yesterday was a Week since he left Boston, his stay at that place so long was absolutely necessary, indeed if he had not stayed, the Crown Point Expedition must have been given up, for it has been with the utmost difficulty that he has got a Train of Artillery for that Service, that matter he has at last got settled, and is in such forwardness that the whole of it will I believe be at Albany in a few days, New York provides £4000 of it, and Massachusets £6000, and they trust to the other Colonies reimbursing them their Quotas; of the last Sum, General Shirley has now at New York been oblidged to engage for £1650, at his own risque, or the matter would not yet have been settled. I am in hopes our Stay at Albany and Skenactady together will not be above Six days, the Stores of all kinds for our Expedition are gone forward. Col. Schuyler with his Regiment is by this time I suppose gone from Skenactady, and Col. Ellison about setting out from thence, for he arrived there with the whole of that Regiment last Monday. Col. Mercer with the remaining Six Companies, (which are about 50 each) of Sir William's Regiment is about three Mile ahead of us in his way to Albany. Sir William we left at New York, he intends to return home as soon as his Health will admit of his travelling. I mention this for fear of mistakes, but say nothing of it.

We left New York in high Spirits, as we had just received the Confirmation of the good News from Admiral Boscawen, a War seems now realy unavoidable, and its like to be a new fashion one, an Army and a prodigious Fleet in North America, and the English Nation behaving with Spirit enough to terrify all Europe.

I have been up with the General Writing since 3 o'clock, by such Industry I hope there will be little of that Business to hinder us at Albany or Skenactady. He desires me to give his Compliments to you, and if possible he will steal some Minutes to day to write you with this. Let our Friends Jack & Kinneer Speak for themselves.

I am, Sir,

Your Affectionate Friend
& Humble Servant,

WM. ALEXANDER.

On board the Sloop Massachusets in the middle of the High Lands on Hudson's River, July 6th, 1755, Sunday Morn[g] 5 o'clock.

The Hon[ble] Robert Hunter Morris, Esq[r].

Gov. Morris to Gov. Lawrence, 1755.

Philad^a. July 9, 1755.

Sir,

I had the pleasure of yours by Mr. Glaiser who brought the very agreeable news of the success of the forces at Chignocto, and of the taking of the two men of war by Adm^l Boscawen, upon both which events you will give me leave to congratulate you, and particularly as to that in your own government, as soon as I had the acc^t of these advantages being gained, I caused 'em to be published and dispersed in the back parts of our Province, that the French and their Indians might have the news, which will certainly dishearten the French, and incline the Indians to quit their cause, what made this the more necessary is that upon Genl Braddocks removall about thirty miles from Fort Cumberland, some Indians fell upon the back Settlements of this Province, Maryland and Virginia, and killed & took prisoners about thirty, and this has put our remote inhabitants into such a Panick that I am fearfull it will render the necessary communication between us and the army very difficult, to prevent which I am going into the back country, and intend to build a wooden fort as well to protect the settlements as to secure a Magazine of Provisions, that I have laid in for the use of the army a hundred and fifty miles from this Place.

My last letter from the Genl left him within about seventy miles of Fort Duquesne, and I am in hopes he is master of it before this, you may depend on having the earlyest intelligence of his success, his great train of artillery and the quantity of Provisions that he is obliged to take with him into an uninhabited country makes his motions very slow, but I doubt not they will be sure.

Genl Shirley on ye 6th Instant was between Albany and New York, and all his forces were before him, most of them have left a place called Skenectaday upon the Mohocks river, and his stores and train were partly arrived at Oswego on the Lake Ontario, and the rest on the way thither. You have I doubt not been informed by him that he takes one thousand Provincial with him against Niagara, besides his own & Sr Willm Pepperill's Regiment. Coll. Johnson by his last letters was in the height of his treaty with the Six Nations, twelve hundred of whom were on ye 24th of June at his own house upon the Mohocks river. I Hope before this has the Honour to be with you that you will have as good an account of the rest of the French fleet as Mr. Boscawen gave of the Alude and the Lye.

On the first accounts of the arrival of a French fleet in America, I laid an embargo upon all provision Vessells, as Mr. Shirley and the other Gov^rs had done to the northward, & propose to continue it till the advices from your part of the world shall make such a pre-

caution unnecessary, and in the mean time shall suffer no provisions to go out of this port but for the use of his Majesty's forces.

I am,

Govr. Lawrence.

Indorsed.—Draft to Govr. Lawrence at Mr. Flowers's, July 10th, 1755.

Gov. Morris to Col. Innes, 1775.

Carlisle, July 14, 1755.

Sir,

I had the favour of yours a few days before I left Philad^a, and sent it to the Committee of my Assembly who were employ'd to Purchase the flower for the army, and Desired they would enable me to answer it to your satisfaction, but they sent me word that Mr. Cressop had not acknowledged the receipt of any of the flower, and could not then give me any account of the quantity sent him. This whole transaction was managed without my having any share in it or any knowledge of what was done but what I heard in common discourse.

Mr. Orme, by the Gen^ls Direction, wrote me that you were left in the command of fort Cumberland, and desired me to afford you any assistance in my Power, which you may be assured I shall readily do, and beg you would favour me with your commands. You are no stranger to the circumstances of this Province nor the difficulties I have to struggle with in having an Assembly Principled against defending this country or making any Provision for military services, will make proper allowances for the small share, I am by that means obliged to take in the measures concerted for the benefit and safety of the colonys.

The Bearer of this, Capt. Glasier, is charged with dispatches to the Genl, giving an acc^t of the reduction of the French forts at Chignecto and Bay Vert, and of the taking of two of their ships of the line by Adm^l Boscawen, upon which I heartily congratulate you and all friends of Britain, and refer you to him for the particulars.

The Indians have destroy'd some of our people as they were conducting Provisions to the men employ'd upon the new road, but we have sent out a large supply of cattle and flower to them under the Protection of sixty-four men, who offer'd themselves Voluntarily for that service, and I am in hopes they will soon Joyn the rout the Genl took from your fort.

I came into this part of the Province to encourage the people who were under great fears from the Indians, and to forward a magazine I am forming for the army, round which I propose to Erect some

stucados, I have now here, a hundred oxen and some flower, with upwards of two hundred barrels of Pork, & have sixty oxen more on the road, and in a little time shall have a large quantity of flower, some more pork and other articles of Provisions, so that if the communication can be kept open upon the new road the Genl need not fear a regular supply.

Indorsed—Draft to Coll. Innis.

Gov. Morris to —— Coxe, Esq., 1755.

Carlisle, in Pensilvania, July 14, 1755.

Sir,

The Bearer, Cap^n Glasier, is charged with dispatches of moment to Genl Braddock, giving an acc^t of the taking the French forts at Chignecto and Bay Verte, by the New England forces under the Command of Coll. Monkton, and of two French men of war of ye Line by Admiral Boscawen. He has been detained some time on account of the murders committed by the Indians upon the new road, and in hopes of a proper guard from this Province to Escort him, which it is not in my Power to furnish, as I have no militia. He therefore takes your road, and you will afford him the best assistance in your Power.

I am, S^r.

To —— Cocks, Esq., at Winchester.

Indorsed—Draft to —— Cox, Esq.

Whitehall, July 15th, 1755.

Sir,

It being for His Majesty's Service that the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations should be fully informed of the present State and Condition of all His Majesty's Colonies in America, I am directed by their Lordships to send you the inclosed Heads of Enquiry, and to desire you will forthwith transmit very full and particular Answers thereto, and also a Collection of the Laws which have from time to time been passed and are now in force within the Colony, under your Government.

I am,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble Servant,
JOHN POWNALL, Sec'ry.

Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr, L^t. Govr of Pennsylvania.

Indorsed—Duplicate, John Pownall, July 15, 1755.

Queries relating to His Majesty's Plantations on the Continent of America.

1. What is the Situation of the Province under your Government, the Nature of the Country, Soil and Climate, the Latitudes and Longitudes of the most considerable Places in it, or the Neighbouring French or Spanish Settlements? Have those Latitudes and Longitudes been settled by good Observations, or only by common Computations, and from whence are the Longitudes computed?

2. What are the reputed Boundaries, and are any parts disputed, what parts and by whom?

3. What is the Constitution of the Government?

4. What is the Trade of the Province, the Number of Shipping, their Tonnage, and the Number of Seafaring Men, with the respective Increase or Diminution within ten Years past?

5. What Quantity and sorts of British Manufactures do the Inhabitants annually take from hence?

6. What Trade has the Province under your Governmt with any foreign Plantations, or any part of Europe besides Great Britain? How is that Trade carried on? What Commodities do the people under your Government send to or receive from foreign Plantations?

7. What methods are there used to prevent Illegal Trade, and are the rame effectual?

8. What is the natural Produce of the Country, Staple Commodities and Manufactures? And what Value thereof in Sterling Money may you annually export?

9. What Mines are there?

10. What is the Number of Inhabitants, Whites and Blacks?

11. Are the Inhabitants increased or decreased within the last ten Years, how much, and for what Reasons?

12. What is the Number of the Militia?

13. What Forts and Places of Defence are there within your Government, and in what Condition?

14. What Number of Indians have you, and how are they inclined?

15. What is the Strength of the Neighbouring Indians?

16. What is the Strength of your Neighbouring Europeans, French or Spaniards?

17. What Effect have the French or Spanish Settlements on the Continent of America upon His Majesty's Plantations, especially upon your Province?

18. What is the Revenue arising within your Governmt, and how is it appropriated?

19. What are the ordinary and extraordinary Expences of your Government?

20. What are the establishmts, Civil and Military, within your

Government, and by what Authority do the Officers hold their Places?

"It is desired, that a Return may be made to these Queries every "Six Months, that the Board may from time to time be apprized of "any Alterations that may happen in the Circumstances of your "Government."

Indorsed.

Queries relating to the Continent of America. Inclosed in Mr. Jno. Pownal's Lre. of the 15th July, 1755.

Gov. Morris to Sir Thos. Robinson, 1755.

Sir:

I came into this Part of the Province that I might the more readily afford Genl. Braddock assistance by sending him Supplys of Provisions and other things that he depended upon this Province for, and yesterday received the Melancholy news of his Defeat and death. The best account I can yet get of that unfortunate affair is from some waggoners that deserted from Coll^o. Dunbar's Camp, which was with the heavy Baggage about forty miles Behind the Genl., who with a chosen body of fifteen hundred men and His train of artillery was advanced within about seven miles of the French fort, and was attack^d as he was assending a hill by a large body of French and Indians, who surrounded his whole party and made a great slaughter. The small remainder of that Body of men were returning to Coll^o. Dunbar's Camp when these men left it, who say that Sr Peter Halket and Cap^n. Orme are among the slain, that all the train is fallen into the Hands of the French, except two pieces that were left with Coll^o. Dunbar, and that of the whole party that was with the Genl, scarce a Hundred escaped the slaughter.

Carlisle, July 16, 1755.

Indorsed.—Draft to Sr Thomas Robinson.

* The reply to these queries at this time—has not been found among the papers,

Gov. Morris to Gov. Sharp, 1755.

Philad^a., 20 July, 1755.

Sir:

My Assembly, who have been sitting a month, have spent their whole time in a contest with me about taxing the Proprietary Estate, and are determined to give nothing unless I will come into that measure, which I am restrained by my commission from consenting to; and yet they are so unreasonable as to insist on my passing their Bills with that and many other things in it equally inconsistent with the rights of Government, but attempts of this kind are now become very common with them, and nothing I think can be done for the general good in this Province without the interposition of Parliament.

The Leaving a Province situated & circumstanced as this is without a Militia, and open to the Attacks of the enemy, is so dangerous to the safety of all British America, that I think the several Governm^ts should Joyn in laying the Matter before the Ministry, that proper measures may be taken before it be too Late.

For, however they may Differ with me about the mode of raising and disposing of money for the Publick Service, there can be no reason against Establishing a regular Militia to enable the People to defend themselves; without which, the remote Settlements must be given up, and the inhabitants become a prey to the Indians.

Had the Assembly of this Province when they first met on ye 23^d of July, acted with that Spirit and Harmony that became the subjects of Britain upon Occasion of the Late defeat, and Contributed a supply adequate to their circumstances, we might have stood a good chance to have retrieved Our honour and taken the French fort this Season. But their conduct has been such that I am convinced they never intended to do any thing against the French for the defence of the Province.

Genl. Shirley, you will see by the Inclosed Letter, has Expectations that these governments are forming an Expedition against Fort Duquesne, and has therefore sent orders to Coll^o. Dunbar to turn his forces that way, But as nothing is or will be done by this Province, I do not think an Enterprise of that kind can be undertaken this Season, and think it more advisable for those troops to reinforce Shirley, which may enable him to take and secure that important pass at Niagara, which once done, the more Southern places will fall into our hands without much difficulty.

Indorsed.—Draft to Govr. Sharpe.

Gov. and Jno. Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Oswego, July 20th, 1755.

Dear Sir:

I wrote to you about Six days ago from the Great Carrying place. We got here safe the day before yesterday, & expect Col. Mercer will be here by the 24th, wth the last of every thing b'longing to the Expedition. We brought up in our Division twice the Stores, & were by far the heaviest loaded of any Battoes wch have yet come up, wch made our March (Passage I wont call it, for we had no Water in many Places,) fatiguing beyond Conception: However, we have sufficient of Powder here, & all the Ordnance, except ye nine poundrs, wch Mercer will bring up if possible, but as the Water is so low I doubt much whether he will be able or not: They will, tho', be got up time enough for the Defence of this Place, wch, if I have time before this Express goes, to describe to you the situation of you will easily perceive stands in great need of them; in short, notwithstanding the fertillity of the Soil here for producing fortifications, better Judges than myself think 500 men would easily take Oswego from 2000. We began yesterday to clear a Spot to erect some Works upon, wch is as well situated to command & defend the Harbour, at the same time that from it's own natural situation it is easily made very strong, as any Spot can possibly be. We have now three Whale Boats, wc we sent from Boston, wth a Party of 30 Men, upon the Point of land opposite Goats Island, near Frontenac, upon the Look out to watch the Motions of the French & Indians there, besides wch, we have a very cleaver Indian & three young Albany Men, who have gone wth design to get near enough to that fort in ye Night as to discover their exact Strength. Our two small Schooners visit 'em to day, & carry 'em fresh Provisions. We find 'em by far more usefull than the large one wch is built, because she cannot claw off a Lee Shore, nor can we find any harbour but this into wch she can go; whereas, there are several harbours large enough for ye two small ones, & they are very good Sea-boats, the other large one will be soon launch'd, & I hope, throh an alteration of Col. Schuyler's, will be much better than the first. My father has likewise sent a fine Cayuga Indian, wth a good Trader or two to Niagara, to endeavour to discover what they are abot there, & to get the best Intelligence of their Numbers, &c., wch they can; these were sent from the Great Carrying Place, so that the Schooner wch set 'em down within Miles of the French fort return'd to-day, & bro't wth him a Cayuga wth his Wife & family, who has spent all last Winter & this Summer in the Neighborhood of Niagara, & came from the fort there this day, 12 days; my father immediately examin'd him, & told him preparitory to his Examination, that "as he was going to endeavour to recover their lands for 'em, & had "a Number of his Tribe, as well as the other tribes of the five Na-

"tions, he expected he would give him a true acco^t of what he knew "of the State of the fort & Garrison, as he would avoid not only his "Resentment, but that of his own Countrymen." I was present the whole time, & from all that could be gather'd, there was not above 150 French & 50 Indians in the fort, nor did he know off any other new Works wch had been erected there lately, except that they had stockaded the fort all round anew: He gave us an acco^t of the Engagement wth General Braddock, wch was a pretty exact one, & inform'd us that the French had Six officers kill'd on the Spot, & abo^t 30 Indians, & that they look'd on it as a very obstinate fight. I find this Express is just going; We must, I perceive, stay here 10 days longer. I will send you by the next Opport^ty a Plan of the Place wth its Environs, wch Staats who grows fat is to get done for me, joins wth me in Love & Respect to you, & is as much as myself, for he can't be more.

Your affectionate & faithful

Humble Servant,

JOHN SHIRLEY.

Dear Sir:

I perceive Jack hath forstall'd me in the particular news I could send you from this place. I congratulate you upon the Grant obtain'd by you from your Assembly at so extraordinary Crisis of his Maj^tys service, and am tho' in much hurry with great truth,

Your most affectionate

Humble Servant,

W. SHIRLEY.

Indorsed.

Capt. Shirley. July 20th, 1755.

Gov. Morris to Gov. Sharpe 1755.

Sir,

I am just returna from the back parts of this Province, where I have been regulating the Magazine and putting the people into the best posture of defence I could, without money or any Militia Law, and have prevail'd on some of the inhabitants to arm themselves in defence of their familys. It was there I received the first accounts of the defeat and the death of the Genl, which I collected from frighted Waggoners who had left the army, a number of whom are returned into this Province, and all I have seen agree in the same story, that the Genl and many officers are kill'd and his whole division defeated, or rather distroyed; but their accounts are mostly hearsay from people that fled from the Gen^ls division, so that I am

still at a loss to form a Judg^{mt} of the State of our Army, but at all Events think it right to send all the men in our power, either to aid the retreat of our forces or to protect the Back Inhabitants, for this Purpose I have appointed my Assembly to meet on Wednesday next; but as they have hitherto been deaf to the Calls of the Crown, I fear they will now be regardless of the present danger, or of the distress of the army sent to protect us.

We have in town an account full as Melancholy as what your letters have communicated; That Adm^{l} Boscawens fleet is infected with the goal distemper, and obliged to put into any Harbours they can; this news, if true, will leave us entirely at the mercy of the French, but I have still some hopes that things are not so bad as they at present appear, tho' this news comes by a vessel from Halifax to New York, and by letters to the post office in this town.

Indorsed.

Dft. to Govr Sharp. July 20th, 1755.

Hermanus Alricks to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Carlisle, July the 22nd, 1755.

Honrd Sir,

This morning our Sheriff Mr. Potter Came to this Town, he informs me, that the French & Indians had cast an Intrenchment across the road before our Army, which they Discover'd not Untill the Came Close up to it, from thence and both sides of the road the Enemy kept a Constant fireing on them, our Army being so Confused, they Could not fight, & they would not be admitted by the Genl or Sr John St. Clair, to break thro' their Ranks or Take behind trees, General Braddock had Two Horses shott Dead Under him, a third wounded, when he rec^{d} his wound, (of which he since Dyed,) Sr John St. Clair dangerously wounded, but it's hop'd he'll recover, Sr Peter Halket & his son, a Great many other officers, and a Thousand men Killed.

Col. Dunbar's Regiment on the 12th Ins^{t} marched back to Fort Cumberland, he was oblig'd to Destroy a great part of the Baggage which he Could not Carry, they were Expected at Will's Creek last Saturday, Capt Hogg & his Company who Escorted the road Cutters was Called away to Wills's Creek, & the workmen are all Discharg'd, here is one Gee Gray an Indian whom (as he says) y^{r} Hon^{r} Sent out to the Waindot Nation, he's Now this Far Returned, and brought five of the Heads of that Nation with him. They stayed at Jacob Pyats for fear of being killed or Ill Treated by the Inhabitants, I have sent this Gee Gray and a white man to bring them Down. We will send them to Philadelphia as They seem very

Desirous of Conference with Your Hon^r. The Inhabitants at Juniata have Intirely Come away from there, and our People in general in great Trouble & Confusion.

I am Your Honours
Most obedient and
Humble Servant,
HARM'S ALRICKS.

P. S. Yesterday I rec^d your Letter to Mr. Swaime, and Imediately sent it to him.

Directed.—To The Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia.

℘ favour of Mr. Jno. Smith.

Gov. De Lancey to Gov. Morris, 1755.

New York, 4 August, 1755.

Sir,

I agree intirely with you in your sentiments of what is necessary to be done this season, and think it no difficult matter to accomplish it. Our defeat was without question, owing to a confidence in our strength, which unwarily led the General into an ambuscade, for want of the proper precautions in marching thro' a wilderness; but I cannot account, from all the informations I have yet received, for our quitting the Camp, destroying the great quantities of Powder, Provisions, and the baggage, when we had an army there superior to what the French had on the Ohio; neither can I conceive the reasons Col^l Dunbar has for marching his troops to Philadelphia, & thereby leaving your back settlements exposed to the Ravages of the Enemy. I suppose there are towns & settlements back where the troops could be quartered and refreshed, nearly as well as at Philadelphia. The Assembly is to meet tomorrow; I hope they will be prevailed on to send a reinforcement to the Provincial troops at least. I cannot encourage you to expect any assistance from this Province, we have too much on our own hands at present to be able to look abroad, and if any number of the French troops are gone up the River St. Lawrence, and there is reason to apprehend it; we shall have occasion for all the force we can raise at Crown Point. I hope your Assembly will be so sensible of the distress of your Borderers, as not only to come to vigorous resolutions, but in such a way as they may be carried into execution. I am, Sir,

Your most obedient &
most humble Servant,
JAMES DE LANCEY.

Governor Morris.

Indorsed—Govr De Lancey.

Col. Thos. Dunbar to Gov. Morris, 1755.

White Horse, Aug. 27, 1755.

Sir,

I am favoured wth two letters of yours, both of ye 23^d^ Instant, in one you desire I'd send some assistance to the Gentleman Employd to recruit for us, this I would most gladly have complied with, but you don't say where he is, if youl be soe good as to send to him to Joyne us at Philidelphia, where I hope to be a Friday or Saturday next, when every thing relative to ye Recruits shall be settled.

I had three Indian Women and a Man brought me by some Wood's Men, from a House once M^r^. Crochan's, to Shippenbourgh. I was at a great Loss to know what to do with them, as I knew some Indians our supposed friends were in my way, I resolved keeping them brought me untill I mett them. Before that hapnd, a Man and a boy were brought me; the next day I mett the Indian called Belt of Wampom, at ye Susquehana, I talked to him about them, he said as soon as he saw them, he would tell me wether they were friends or foes; as soon as they came, he talked to them, and assured me they were friends and of his own blood, and desired they might be sett at liberty, which I imedietly ordered; this is all I know of them, and hope I have acted right.

I am,
Sir,
Your most Obedient
humble Servant,
THO. DUNBAR.

Govr Morris.

Indorsed—Col. Dunbar.

Petition of Defence from Cumberland, 1755.

To Honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Governour And Commander-in-Chief in & over the Province of Pensylvania, &c.

The Humble Petition of A Number of the Inhabitants of Cumberland County, Heartily join'd as a Company, Under the Care & Command of Joseph Armstrong, Es^q^., Sheweth:

That Your Pettitioners are at present in A most Dangerous Situation, as we live upon the frontiers, Expos'd to the Inhuman Cruelty of Barbarous Savages, and Nothing to Impede them or Defend us, but the Sovereign Benignity of Almighty God, for we are in A Defenceless Condition, having Neither arms nor Amunition, and in

this Lamentable Case Our Only Door of Hope (Next to the Divine Goodness) is in Your Honour's Compassion, And the more for that you have given the Utmost assurance to us of Your Care of this Province, and in particular by the Late Provisions made for our Brethren in Potter's Township, who are in Equal Jeopardy with us.

May it therefore Pleas Your Honour to Consider Our Case and grant us Some relief by Ordering to us such A number of Guns and Quantity of Amunition, and Upon Such terms as Your Honour shall appoint, And Your Pettitioners, as in Duty bound, shall Ever Pray.

Dated August 7th, 1755, and Subscribed by

Robt. McConnel,
Wm. McCord,
James McCamond,
Josh. Mitchel,
John Irwin,
Jno. Jones,
Wm. Rankin,
Josh. Patterson,
James Barnet,
Josh. Barnet,
Jno. Hindman,
Wm. Scott,
Abram. Irwin,
James Norrice,
Jno. Norrice,
Cristor. Irwin,
Jas. Patterson,
Jas. Eatton,
Jno. McCord,
Jas. Guthrie,
Thos. Barnet,
Jno. Barnet,
Thos. Barnet,
Wm. Dickson,
Robt. Dixson,
Geo. Gallery,
Jon. McKeamey,
Chas. McCamon,
James Scott,
Frans. Scott,
Pathk. Scott,
Barnt. Robertson,
Jon. Wilson,
Jon. Moor,
Jas. McCamon,
Jas. Mitchel,
Jno. Mitchel,
Robt. Colwel,
Alex'r Colwel,
Chas. Stuart,
Jno. Stuart,
Danl. Stuart,
Saml. Brown,
Josp. Swan,
Jon. Swan,
Robt. Shields,
Davd. Shields,
Matw. Shields,
Robt. Shields,
Matw. Shields,
Wm. McCamish,
Jas. McCamish,
Jno. McCamish,
Wm. Swan,
Jon. Rippey,
Jas. Dinney,
Wm. Dinney,
Jno. Eaton,
Jno. Machan,
James Elder,
Josh. Eaton,
Wm. Mitchel,
Joh Armstrong,
Thomas Armstrong,
John Boyd,
Robt. Groin,
Devard Williams,
Samuel Boun.

Indorsed.—7 August, 1755. The Petition of the Inhabitants of the County of Cumberland.

Extract John Shirley, to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Oneida Carrying Place,
August 12, 1755.

Dear Sir:

I am sot down to write to you because there is an Opport'y of sending you a few lines, & because I can't spend my time, when I have any at my own Disposal, so agreeably any other way, for really I have little of News to add since my father's last letter to You, inclosing Copies of his Orders to Col. Dunbarr, whose Retreat is tho't by many here to be a greater Misfortune than the late Genl Braddock's unhappy Defeat. What Dishonour is thereby reflected upon the British Army! Mr. Dunbarr has ever been esteem'd an exceeding good Officer, but nobody here can yet guess at ye Reason of his Retreat in the Circumstances he was in, & some severe Reflections are thrown out upon his Conduct; Some would have him sent wth 500 Men to bring back what he bury'd wth 1500. As for my own part I think one can't be too cautious how they blame on these Occasions, & let the appearances be what they will time sh^d be allow'd for a fair & impartial inquiry. In the mean time it is a most mortifying & shocking Consideration that so fine an Army sh^d be beat & intirely drove out of not only the field, but so far from it, by ab^t 500 Indians & French, wch indeed is enough to provoke any People to speak what they think. How do you approve of my father's Disposal of the forces remaining wth Col. Dunbarr? I could not write to You 'till that was over, & don't know what to say now. Upon the whole I think it will turn out to be ye best Disposition that could be made of 'em: We may want some of 'em to secure this Place & the Wood Creek 'till our Return, & Johnson may now want to be supported; besides wch the Mohawks who go wth us & Johnson must have their Women & Children & old Men well defended ag^t any Insults from the French & their Indians by my father, & the N. Y. Indep. Comp^y are at Fort Cumberland. Add to this that they will be so much the nearer the Seat of Action for ye next Campaigne.

We left Albany the 24th of July & wth great Difficulty got here not till ye 8th Instant, the Water being excessively low & our 84 Battoes (for my father w^d see all ye Powder & Shot up wth him) being as deep again as any wch went before us: but these were not the only Difficulties we had to surmount; we were oblig'd to stop to confer wth the Indians wch cost us three days, & we found that instead of Mr. Johnsons' securing for our Expedition a Number of men & having them ready, he had lay'd every Obstacle in our way, & had forbid 'em going wth us, telling 'em by Hendrick that there was nothing to be done at Niagara, & that such of 'em who prefered going wth us rather than to Crown Point wo'd be look'd upon as

Cowards. However, by means of Lydius & Mr. Visher we have got 26 of 'em here; we had thirty, but Henderick took away four of 'em, & for a time confin'd Visher, & we have, & shall have when Col. Mercer brings up the Rear, abo^{t} the same Number of Stockbridge Indians, & I look upon abo^{t} thirty young fellows from Albany & it's Environs to be as good as Indians. We have likewise engag'd 40 Irregulars to remain on this Place well arm'd to help keep this & ye Creek 'till we Return. We go from hence tomorrow, & expect to be at Oswego in 4 days afterwards. Col. Mercer will be six days behind us, & we can't have less than six more to fit out from Oswego after he joins us, so that we shan't be before Niagara 'till the 1st Week in ye next month. We have had Acco^{ts} from thence by Indians, to wch we are not to give intire Credit; however, it seems plain they are hard at Work in that fort preparing to receive us; but as it is certain that there is water enough for our Schooners to come close in under the Fort & we shall have a good train of Artillery & easily land under ye Cover of our Schooners & Race Gallies all we have to do is to get safe before it. Besides a very pretty brass 11 Inch Mortar we had cast in N. England, an Hoyetzer, wch flings its Shell 2 Miles distance, we have 5 smaller wch carry Cannisters of 4^{l} Grape or 4^{l} of ball, & Swan shott & two very good Royals, all wch have been prov'd & tho't to be exceeding good of their kind. You know what Train we had before, but if I have time I will send You a List inclosed as it now is. My father has been so good as to declare me one of his Aid-de-Camps. Pray in Case of Success & the General's sending over one of his Aid-de-Camps, what do You think, sh^{d} Kinneer or I go? It is K.'s Right, I believe, as oldest, & as he is the oldest Captain he will want to be upon the spot to try for a Majority. It is to be consider'd on my side that I have no further Promotion at present in View; but it is, notwithstanding a pretty thing to be send on such an Errand & being the General's son, whether that does not give me a sort of right, tho' so much K.'s Junr, to expect it. I begg yor Opinion in this Affair, & if you sh^{d} be clear that I sh^{d} go, pray say a Word or two to my father upon it. If Mr. Orme sh^{d} be wth You, You can know his Opinion.

If you will promise to excuse Blots, Interlineations & Grease (for this is wrote in ye open Air upon ye head of a Pork bb^{l} & 20 People abo^{t} me) I will begin another half Sheet. I remember the greatest Difficulty in the Cape Breton Expedition was to keep the N. E. men there in Garrison after they had got Possession of the Forts; the like in all Probability will happen in Case Mr. Johnson succeeds; then some of the Regulars now wth Col. Dunbarr may be ordered from Albany to Garrison Crown Point. I admire Mr. Penn's Spirit upon the present Occasion, & am sorry that the Publick can't have the benefit of his Weight & Influence, wch would be very serviceable, I am satisfi'd in raising a Number of Men immediately in the manner you propose for him; but when you consider how

extremely hard it would be to put a Person over the head of the lowest officer in the Virginia Corps, who have had so hard a Campaigne of it, & have behav'd so gallantly in the late Ingagement, I flatter myself that neither yourself nor Mr. Penn will take it amiss of me that I have not mention'd him yet to my father, especially as ye Vacancies in that Corps will not be fill'd up 'till we join 'em, & I have thereby time to hear further from you upon this head; I hope, in the mean time, Mr. Penn will be persuaded that I shall always take particular Pleasure in promoting any thing in my Power wch may be agreeable to him, & as in all probability other Regimts will be order'd to be rais'd in America very soon if he shod continue in ye mind of coming into the Army, & my father shall continue to command in North America, there can I think be no Difficulty in his coming in then for a Company upon the same terms I came into one in my father's Regimt, vize: raising a Number of Men. I begg you will be pleased to make my Complimts to him & excuse me for not writing to him. * * * * *

Since writing the above my father has recd Letters from Govr Dinwiddie & Accots of the Supplies granted by yor Province & the New Jerseys, which has occasion'd his Alteration of the Disposition of the British Troops in the Manner you will see by his Letter to you, & I will now tell you that from ye very first I took the Liberty to advise strongly to this measure, but being quite alone in it, it was overrul'd. Indeed looking upon Nova Scotio to be quite secure for this year, I would have had a Detachmt of 500 of the Regulars sent from that Garrison directly by Water to Philadelphia, if no N. Engld men have been got from thence of Winslow's Command, & they might have assisted in providing a Train of Artillery from thence out of the King's Ships & Garrison. Perhaps this may yet be order'd, & I shall once more press it all in my Power. I shall be glad to hear that a large Number of Men are likely to be seen rais'd to the Southward, & that they can be easily arm'd, but am much affraid you will be very late. * * *

I am, Dr Sir,

Yours most Affectionately,

JOHN SHIRLEY.

Indorsed.—August 12th, 1755. Capt Shirley.

Gov'r. to Mayor and Aldermen, 1755.

Gentlemen,

The Indians are come to Town, heated wth their Journy and in Liquor, so that it will be absolutely necessary there shou'd be some Constables placed at the State House Square where they are lodg'd, and orders shou'd be given that they permit none of ye Towns people to come to them. I therefore desire this may be done directly. It wou'd be of great Service if one of the Magistrates

went in person & gave the Constables their Orders in the presence of the Towns people.

I am.

August 17th, 1755.
Indorsed.—Draft Letter to the Mayor & Aldermen.

Gov. Morris to Gov. Dinwiddie, 1755.

Philad^a., August 19th, 1755.

Sir,

I have receiv'd your last letter of the 5th Instant, as also that of the 29th of July, by express, to which you desire to be referr'd. I had before receiv'd information of the unhappy & very surprizing defeat of the Army under General Braddock's Command, & think it a most melancholy affair; it would certainly have been of the greatest Consequence to the Colonies in General, to have exert'd themselves vigorously to retrieve if possible so great a misfortune & disgrace suffer'd by his Majesty's Arms, without loss of time; & I am of opinion with you, that it was not too late in the year when we received the News.

It appears very clear to me that another attempt might have been put into Execution against Du Quesne, & I am far from thinking but we might have promised ourselves success, had these Colonies that are so nearly interested in the removal of the French from the Ohio united & acted a proper & Dutifull part, as part of their forces were sent off to Strengthen Niagara.

I rece'd letters last night by Express from Gen. Shirley, acquainting me that as he had been inform'd that this Province, Virginia & Maryland, had given considerably towards another expedition, he thought proper to send orders to be immediately forwarded to Col. Dunbar, to make a Second attempt upon Fort du Quesne, but I am of opinion this cannot be put in practice before next Year, from the backwardness of my Assemblies in particular to do what is so Strongly their Interest to Comply with, if the troops commanded by Col. Dunbar were to join those employ'd against Niagara, as were Gen. Shirley's first orders, it would greatly facilitate the reduction of the French forts there, which will cut off all Communication with Canada, & of course their forts on the Ohio will fall into our hands, as they will probably then be oblig'd to surrender for want of Provisions & other necessaries.

In Answer to my inclosed message recommending to my Assembly to Grant the necessary Supplys towards an Expedition this Season against Fort Duquesne, they tell me that if I will pass a Bill they sent me some time ago for raising fifty thousand pounds, without amendments, that it would be sufficient for that purpose. But as that Bill is framed It would be a manifest breach of trust in me & giving up the Government into their Hands, I must therefore

give over all expectations of any thing from this Province, not only this year, but at any time hereafter, unless a British Parliament should interpose and to Induce them to do it, I think the Ministry should be informed of the Naked and Defenceless condition of this Province, and of its being an open door by means of which the French may make themselves masters of this continent, as they have now road from their fort upon the Ohio, and may march a body of troops into the Heart of this Plentifull Colonys, and Strengthen themselves greatly by the German and Irish Roman Catholicks, who are very numerous here. I think it is the Interest of the other Colonys to Joyn in representing these matters to the Government at home that proper measures may be taken in time.

Indorsed.—Draft to Govr. Dinwiddie.

Gov. Morris to Gov. De Lancey, 1755.

Philad^a., August 21st, 1755.

Sir:

I was in hopes I should have been able to have wrote you an acc^t of our preparations for another attempt upon Fort Duquesne, But my Assembly have been now sitting a month, and have spent the whole time in an Idle dispute with me upon a bill that I have it not in my power to pass; And yet they tell me that unless I do pass it, and that in the shape they have sent it up, they will do nothing.

This puts it out of my Power to afford that Assistance to Coll^o. Dunbar in the Second attempt against Fort Duquesne, which Shirley has Order'd him to undertake, and to call upon these Provinces for Assistance, which I imagine the Governments of Virginia and Maryland will readily afford, but it will fall heavy upon them as Pensilvan^a will do nothing.

I am Apprehensive that the Season is Rather too far advanced, Considering that nothing is prepared, nor proper funds Establish'd for purchasing what is wanted upon the present occasion, which will delay some things till Shirley's Answer to the Inclosed letters can be had, which you will therefore be so good as to forward to him as soon as possible.

I wish the distress at Louisburgh may be what Govr. Lawrence represents it, but cannot imagine they will be reduced to the necessity of surrender^g the place, as they must have plenty of fish upon which they may well Subsist.

My Assembly have sent me a Message in Answer to my last, Consisting of 26 folio post pages, wrote full and Close, which I hope will excuse me for the incorrectness of this.

I am, Sir.

Indorsed.—Draft to Govr. De Lancey.

Account of Ammunition, &c., Sent to Frontiers, 1755.

Acco^t of Guns, Powder and Lead, sent into the back Counties for the Defence of the Frontier, Bought with the Thousand pounds given by the Assembly, August 22d, 1755.

Names of Persons to whom Delivered.	Country to which sent.	Townships to which sent.	Number of Guns.	Quantity of Powder.	Quantity of Lead.	
William Buchanan, ...	Cumberland	Carlisle	50	2 Qu^r Casks	2 2 0	
Justice Maxwell, ...	Cumberland	Peters Towns^p	50	3 Do.	2 2 0	
James Galbreath & Adam Reed, Esq^rs, ...	Lancaster	Paxton	50	2 Do.	2 0 0	
John Carson, ...	Lancaster	Paxton	25	1 Do.	1 0 0	
John Wright, ...	York	Huntington Strabane Cumberland Mun Allen	75	3 Do.	3 0 0	
Capt. Alex^r Culbertson, . . .	Cumberland	Lourgan	25	1 Do.	1 0 0	
Joseph Armstrong, ...	Cumberland	Hamilton	25	1 Do.	1 0 0	
John Wright, ...	York	York Town	25	1 Do.	1 0 0	
John Smith, ... John Armstrong, ... William Buchanan, . . .	Cumberland	To be distributed at their Discretion.	125	5 Do.	5 0 0	
Sent to Penn's Creek at the Time of the first Murders there, but stop't at Harris's, by the People, and divided. Some to Hunter's Fort,			50	4 Do.	2	& 2 Swivel Guns.
			500	23	21	2 swivel guns

Indorsed.—Account of Guns and Ammunition delivered to the Inhabitants of the Back Counties of the Province of

James Burd to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Shippensburg, 24th Augt, 1755.

Honble Sir,

I had the pleasure of your Honrs favours of ye 14th Currt. wherein you are pleased to let me know the trouble you have with the people that work't at the Roads; I am Extreamly sorry for it, but Cannot help imputing it to our Assembly; The method proposed in a letter Some time ago to your Honr, Signed by the Commissrs, for giving attendance at different places in this Province, in order to pay of the labourers, &c. I made no doubt would have been Chearfully gone into, as we therein mentioned a Committee of the House to attend with the Money, & be Satisfyed in every paymt made. If our Assembly expects the People are to wait upon them at Philada, in order to Receve their Money; many of the labourers will be obliged to loose their money Intirely, as they would Spend ⅔ of it in going to Receve it, besides their time, & I for my part, must loose what I have advanced them, which is Considerable (to me however,) & if this is the manner in which we are to be treated, it will put an end to Publick Faith in this Province.

It is a very great hardship upon me, that I must bear the burthen of both ends of this affair, very much to the prejudice of my own Private Concerns, Notwithstanding a Number of Commissrs appointed along with me. However, I shall Immediately make up the accots, and transmitt them to your Honr; In the mean, I begg you will believe me with great Esteem to be,

Your Honrs

Most obedt Servant,

JAMES BURD.

Directed—To The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr, Governour & Commandr in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania.

General Johnson to Gov. Pownell, 1765.

Camp at Carrying Place,
24th Augt, 1755.

Sir:

By Accounts I have from Canada by 4 Mohawks, whom I sent there some time agoe, and returned 3 days agoe, it appears that the French will Make a very great Opposition; Nay, bring all the Strength they have this way. I call'd a Councill of Warr Yesterday, and sent their Oppinion to the Several governments concern'd in this expedition, to which I refer you; I purpose marching to-

morrow with the first Division, consisting of 1500 Men & some field Peices, for Lake St Sacrament, & some Indians. Maj^r General Lyman is to follow me as soon as the New Hampshire Troops join him here, which I have ordered them to doe emediately, as we have fall'n on a Method to Support them, as long as there are provision in the Army. We could not spare so many good men as they are look'd upon to be. Cap^n Stodard Arrived here Yesterday with old Hendrick's Brother & 12 Young Indians, and says M^rs. Farrell, Butler, &c., will be here tomorrow with old Hendrick & about 200 more; those, with about 40 who accompaned me hither, & others who are to follow, will Amount to About 300. As soon as I arrive at the lake I shall erect Magazines, and build a place of Strenght Again the rest of the forces come up. Our Indians here seem much Disperited at the News of the Caghnawageys declaring in favour of the French, as well as at General Braddock's Defeat; there is an Indian expected here to-morrow, whom I sent with Dispatches to the General, and was in the engagement with him, who has told the whole Affair to the Indians very particularly, this you may Imagine may have no good Effect at this Critical Juncture; besides the Acc^ts Bro^t from Canada, by the 4 Mohawks, of the French's strenght and their Indians and the weekness of our Troops, which they hourly Complain of, Discourages them so much, that I may without vanity assert, Nothing but their regard for me would engage one of them to go a Step; what with Disertions, sickness, &c., we shall not be above 3000 Effective for Garrisons, &c.

Cap^n Eyre has laid out a p^s of fortification here round Lydius's Log House, which if finished, would be very Serviceable in case of a retreat, but as it is thought too large by most of the officers, & Cannot be finished before we go, It give so Great Uneasiness, that they purpose to Apply to me About it, I understand this day.

EXTRACTS FROM THE COUNCIL OF WARR:

That the road from La Praire to St Johns, is full of Waggons, of provisions & Stores, constantly passing and repassing; that the Brig^e and another Vessell are making Constant return to & from Crown Point; That there were in the Fort 100 Men, 200 more were Marching to join them, & that more were coming in such parties, that the French would be Superior to us, Not only in the number of Troops, but also of Indians. The Caghnawageys having taken up the Hatchet against us, and the French calling in all the Indians they have in Canada; That the French are making Several New Works at Crown Point, and that if our Army Marched by Wood Creek, they intended to fortifie themselves and Oppose us at So^s Bay, if we marched by Lake St Sacrament, at *Ticondaraga.

* This is the Narrows below Lake St. Sacrament.

Gov. Morris to the Mayor of Philadelphia, 1755.

Philad^a, August 25th, 1755.

Sir:

Coll^o Dunbar, who is now at Lancaster with his own and the Late Sr Peter Halket's regiment, and three Independ^t Companys, writes me that he proposes to be here with those troops on Friday next, in order to fit them for such service as Genl Shirley shall order, and Desires me to have Quarters prepared for one hundred officers and about twelve hundred men; and as an Act pass'd the last Sitting of Assembly, extending to this province Such parts of the Mutiny and Desertion acts of Parliament as relates to the Quartering soldiers, you will, therefore, with the Assistance of the other Magistrates, cause quarters to be provided for the soldiers & Lodgings for the officers, as soon as possible, that I may communicate to Coll^o Dunbar what is done.

Indorsed.—Dft. to the Mayor, recommending it to him to Provide Quarters for the Army under the Command of Coll^o Dunbar.

Gov. Morris to Gov. Shirley, 1755.

Philad^a, August 27th, 1755.

Dear Sir:

When your friend Mr. Pownal went from hence, he Hinted to me that he had some thoughts of seeing England this fall, where he imagined he could be of more service to the Common Cause than by continuing in America. You well know his ability and attachments to you, the great acquaintance he has with men and things in this Country, and what lights & hints he will have it in his power to give upon American affairs to the ministry; and as you have nothing in View but to promote the real Interest of the Colonys, and to make it consistant with that of the mother Country, I think, with great submission, that you cannot have a better means of Conveying your thoughts and schemes for the publick utility to the ministry, than by him.

As to myself, I am unfortunately linked with a set of men that seem lost to all sence of duty to their Country, or decency to their Superiors, who will oppose whatever I recomend, however beneficial to the publick. You are otherwise circumstanced, what you say has weight with your own and other Provinces, and the King's Ministers have a Confidence in you, will it not, therefore, be very proper for you to Lay before the Crown the State and Condition of the Colonys & of the present service; the Assistance they are capable of affording the Crown in America, or sea war; the Obsticles and reasons why that assistance has not been & will not be afforded, and the most effectual Methods of removing those obsticles, and of making the

Colonys materially benefical to Britain, both in War and Peace. In laying these matters before the Governmt, you cannot find any man that will be able, by a personal application, to afford you that assistance that Mr. Pownal can, as he is not unknown to any of the King's ministers, and has the particular Confidence of some of them.

Indorsed.—Dft. to Gov. Shirley.

Gov. Morris to Gov. De Lancey, 1755.

Sir:

I am obliged to you for sending forward the Letters to Genl Shirley, because the motion of the Troops now in this Province will depend upon his answer, as Colle Dunbar says he has no money to furnish the forces with the several things that are absolutely necessary for them in case they go upon service, either to the northward or westward, as to the Letter I imagine no thing can possibly be done this season, tho' I am told Virginia and Maryland are raising forces for the purpose. I am glad to hear of the distress at Louisburgh, the flux must be owing to the cause you mention, and it is our business not to remove it. I recomended the matter to the Assembly, not caring to take it upon myself when the Legislature was sitting, as they could render an Embargo much more effectual, but as they refused to come into the thing, I shall meet the Council upon the head to-morrow, and if they consent shall lay one on in this port and in New Castle, which may prove more Effectual than my last Embargo, as you tell me Jersey have laid one, which they declined doing before.

It is very disagreeable to me to be concernd in a dispute with my Assembly at such a time as this, when the Common good & safety should take place of every other Consideration. But as I have from the beginning avoided every thing of the kind, and advised them to do the same, I cannot accuse myself of being in the least the cause of the inactivity of this Province, But must think that they had no intention to do any thing for the Common cause, or for their own security, and purposly started those disputes to furnish a pretence for their conduct. Had this been before a doubt, their last long messages and refusal to Establish a Militia would have made it clear. The avow'd Principles of those Messages are Republican, and they are calculated to heat & inflame the people, to infuse into the minds of the Germans and others—that their rights & Libertys are invaded, & that they are to be made slaves & vassells. By this means they will weaken and unhinge the Government, & not only so, but Hinder the Germans from assisting the English and reconcile them to the French Governmt, under which they cannot be worse than slaves and vassels.

Indorsed.

Dft. to Govr Delancy. August 28th, 1755.

Gov. Sharpe to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Annapolis, August 29th, 1755.

Sir:

I detain Governor Dinwiddie's Express a Moment, to acknowledge by him the Receipt of your Favour of the 20th. I am sorry to learn that not even the present melancholy Situation of Affairs in this Quarter could weigh with your Assembly to grant some Supplies, in such a manner as you could accept them; the Example they have set is too grateful to our folks for me to give them an Opportunity of persuing a similar Scheme, or expressing themselves in such Language unless I shall receive more particular Instructions from England, or the Enemy make an Attempt on Fort Cumberland, which, by what I can find, Governor Innes begins to expect. It is said that his Command, a fortnight since, consisted of only 160 Men, if they have since gone off in the same proportion; I shall next expect to hear it is entirely relinquished. The Indians have done a good deal of Mischief in several parts of Virginia, but they have not made our People any Visits since the Engagement, however the distant Inhabitants are so terrified by the Reports they hear, that they are leaving their Plantations very fast, & retreating to the more populous parts of the Country. As I have not heard any thing of Colonel Dunbar's Return towards Us, I presume he is proceeding to join General Shirley, which I hope he will do time enough to be of some service, but I can tell him twill not a little chagrine Governor Didwiddie, who cannot bear the thought of leaving Fort Du Quesne unattempted again this Summer. I have already intimated to Sr Thomas Robinson how defenceless we are, notwithstanding our Numbers, for want of a proper Militia Law, which I have told him has often & will be always in vain sollicited from our Assembly: whether Governor Dinwiddie prevailed with the Assembly of that Province the other Day to pass one I know not, otherwise he will, I doubt not, write also to the Ministry on the same subject.

With great Respect & Esteem,

I am, Sir, Your most obedt

& most humble Servant,

HOR'O. SHARPE.

Indorsed.

Letter from Govr Sharpe, August 29, 1755.

Rcvd 1st Septr, 1755. Read in Council, 2d Septr.

Gov. Morris to Gov. De Lancey, 1755.

Sir:

I this minute receivd by Express, from Govr Dinwiddie* the Inclosd letter, by which you will see his scheme for building a Fort near the great Meadows, in the way to Fort Duquesne. I much doubt his being able to Carry it into Execution, and by the accounts giving that Country by the Officers of the regiments now here, I cannot think it by any means a proper place. I cannot afford him any assistance from this Province, and imagine that Maryland will be as backward, so that it must rest with Virginia alone. I am very much taken up with the Troops now here, which are in very bad Order, The Coll^o thinks of making up his regiments with Servants which he may soon do, but it will be very disagreeable to our People here and very troublesome to me. I have Laid an Embargo upon all the Provisions here, but am told the merchants intend not to regard it, and we have got to such a hith of disobedience in this Province, that the Orders of the Government have very little weight.

I am,

Sir,

your most Obed^t Humble Servt,

ROBT. H. MORRIS.*

Govr Delancey.

Philad^a, Sepr 1st, 1756.

Indorsed.

Copy—to Govr Delancey. Sepr 1st, 1755.

Gov. De Lancey to Gov. Morris, 1755.

New York, 1 Sep^tr, 1755.

Sir,

I expect this day to have a full Assembly, to whom I must send a Message on the subject of reinforcing the Troops under Major General Johnson; before them I shall lay the intelligence I have recieved from Massachusetts Bay & Connecticut, the Former have agreed to raise 800 men, & the latter 2000 for that purpose. I cannot say what the Assembly will do here, if I cannot get men, I hope to prevail on them to give money to support the Connecticut troops; that Government shews a very laudable zeal, but I fear the reinforcement will come too late, as the season is already far advanced.

* See this letter, Colon. Rec., Vol. VI., p. 603. It must be on or near the Fort Necessity, which, under Washington, capitulated to the French under Monsr. de Villier. See Colon. Rec., Vol. VI., p. 50–53, 181, 182.

You will excuse my not giving a fuller answer to yours of the 28th* August. I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient

& most humble Servant,

JAMES DE LANCEY.

Governor Morris.

Indorsed.

Govr Delancey. Sepr 1st, 1755.

Gov. Hardy to Gov. Morris, 1755.

New York, 5th September, 1755.

Sir:

Being Honoured with his Majesty's Commission as Captain General and Governour in Chief of this Province, I take this early opportunity of notifying my Arrival to your Honour.

As the present State of Affairs requires the keeping up an exact Correspondence between the several Governours on the Continent, in every part of his Majesty's Service which may concern the Interest and welfare of his Colonies, I beg leave to Assure you of my intention to maintain it on my part, and that I shall esteem as a favour any intelligence you shall be pleased to communicate to me; at the same time it will give me a Real pleasure if, during my Administration, I have it in my power to do you any Service. The inclosed Letter I brought with me from England.

I am,

Sir,

Your Honours most obed^t

humble Servant,

CHAS. HARDY.†

Being informed of a Vessel bound for Europe from your place, I take the liberty to trouble you with the Inclosed Packet to forward to England.

Governour Morris.

Indorsed.

Govr Hardy. Sepr 5th, 1755.

* See page 396. † See Govr's answer, p. 405.

Gov. Morris to Edward Shippen, 1755.

Sir,

I sent you, since Captn Leslies going away from Lancaster to the Army, the sum of Two hundred and Sixty Pounds, for wch my Secretary has your Receits.

Of this sum, I understand Captn Lesley has received no more than One hundred and Fifty Pounds Six Shillinge St., Penna.

The Ballance being One hundred and nine Pounds thirteen Shillings & Sixpence, Be pleased to pay to him or his Order, he having given me a Receit for this here, together with that of Five hundred Pounds, wch I had supplied him with whilst here, amounting in all to Seven hundred and Sixty Pounds.

Philad^a, 5 Sept^r, 1755.

Indorsed.

Df^t to Edward Shippen. Sepr 5th, 1755.

Gov. Morris to Gen. Shirley, 1755.

Dear Sir:

I had the Pleasure of hearing you were all safe at Oswego, on the 20th ult.,* by a letter from yourself and my friend Jack, to whom if I can, I will write by this conveyance. I deliverd your letter to Coll^o Dunbar, who arrived on the 28 of Aug^st with the two regiments, the Independ^t Companys and the train, most of them in very bad order, and by all his motion and the difficulties that he makes about every thing, I imagine he has no intention to move from hence. Coll^o Gage is putting Halket's Regiment in as good order as Possible, and will be ready for Service very soon, but it will be some time before the other troops are here, unless you send quickening orders, which I hope you will.

My good friend, Capt. Orme, is now with me, and is very much recoverd of his wound. Coll^o Burton is also here, but not so well recoverd, the Ball being still in him, but I Hope for the sake of the publick that he may be quite fit for service before the next year, as he is a very sensible knowing man. Cap^n Orme is going to England, and will put the affair of the Western Campaign in a true light, and greatly different from what it has been represented to be, and you know very well that his situation & abilities gave him great opportunities of knowing every thing that passd in the army or in the Colony, relative to military matters, and I am sure he will be of great use to the Ministry in the measures that may be concerted for the future safety and defence of these Provinces. You are now, my good sir, to consider yourself as a Military man, and

* See page 381.

representations will be expected from you in relation to the security of these Colonies against the French, which is become a very national point, as the superiority in America will cast the ballance in Europe, whoever therefore can, by his advice and assistance, contribute to secure these Colonies does the greatest service to Britain, and will be entitled to the greatest rewards. This you in a particular manner will have it in your power to do, by Laying before the Government the most rational plans for that purpose. The opportunities Mr. Orme will have with the Duke, & all the Kings ministers, upon his return of explaining American affairs, makes it quite necessary that you should agree in genl in your representations, that both may have the greater weight, and my friendship for you obliges me to hint this matter to your consideration, that you may in your letters to the Ministry refer to him, and give him an opportunity of enforcing what you may write, the substance of which you will, I believe, think it necessary to Communicate to him.

Collo Dunbar, who makes a point of Differing from the late Genl in every thing will comply with none of his contracts, and Even declines paying for the recruits I have raised at the rate Genl Braddock orderd, which will fall heavy upon poor Benzil, who has raised one hundred and Eighty two men, of which fifty are refused, and he cant get the three pounds sters pr man for the remainder, and their subsistence, till they Joynd the regimt. I must therefore beg your directions upon that head.

Capn Orme will go from hence to New York, & proposes to take his Passage from thence or from Boston, as an opportunity may offer, and he will Expect to hear from you while he stays at New York.

Indorsed—

Dft to Genl Shirley. Sepr 5th, 1755.

Gov. Morris to Col. Dunbar, 1755.

Philada, Sepr 6th, 1755.

Sir:

Genl Braddock, by letter to me of ye 9th of June last, desired I would employ some proper person to raise recruits for yours and the Late Sir Peter Halkets regimts, that they might be completed agreable to his Majestys orders, and empowered me to give three pounds Sterling pr man to the person I should Employ, & to offer the men the Kings pay from the time of their Inlistment, and Cloaths & Arms when they Joynd the regiment. In pursuance of these directions I employed Mr. Adolph Benzil, a gentleman of family, and one that had seen service, who raised upward of one hundred and Eighty men, out of which your officers have taken one hundred &

thirty seven. Mr. Benzill Expects to be paid by me according to the Promis's I made him, and has given me in the Enclosed account, amounting to five hundred and thirty seven pounds three Shillings and Sixpence Sterling, which I must desire you will Enable me to discharge.

Indorsed.

Dft to Colle Dunbar. Sepr 6th, 1755.

Captain John Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Dear Sir,

I am much oblig'd to You for yor two letters dated 21st & 24th Augt, & for the hint you have given my father concerning my being sent home wth his Dispatches. My father is now in Conference wth the Indians, & has given me your three last Letters to answer for him, wch I am sorry for, as I can't wth Propriety answer that part of yr last wch relates to me; but he has that high Opinion of your Judgment, that I look upon myself now, as sure as if I had his Promise of it: however, I shd have been glad to have seen what he would have said to You upon it. I have put into his Letter all the News concerning ourselves wch I tho't was proper for him to mention: You therein see how difficult a Navigation it is from Schenectady hither. Col. Mercer was 26 days coming here & some of the 9 Pounders are still upon a Rift a Mile from hence, where they bilg'd the Battoes. The French have found means to alter the Indians vastly; they were much our friends before, but they are now so troublesome, it is a difficult matter to live in the same place. We are fortifying a Hill I mention'd to You in my last, & shall build Barracks there & on this side as fast as possible; but what few Carpenters we had are going away, frighten'd at a flux wch carrys off some of our People & has fallen heaviest upon them. We are not more than abt 1500 Men fit for Duty; but that, I am pretty sure, if we can go in time in our Sloop, Schooner, Row Gallies & Whaleboats, will be sufficient to take Frontenac, after wch we may venture to go upon the Attack of Niagara, but not before; for we have certain Intelligence that they have a Number of Troops, perhaps 600 there, & two Vessells as large as our Sloop & Schooner, wch would wth great Ease make themselves Masters of this Place while we were gone to Niagara, & most effectually prevent our getting back. We have as good Intelligence as it is possible to have from both Places, & I have not the least doubt wth myself of knocking down both these Places yet this fall, if we can get away in a Week: as for garrisoning either, I fear it is impracticable if we had Provisions. We have already, cold, rough Weather, & are told it is usual here

at this season; but if we take or destroy their two Vessells at Frontenac & ruin their Harbour there & destroy the two forts of that & Niagara, I shall think we have done great things; wch together wth the making this Place defensible, wch it was not before agt a very small force, will lay a good foundation for a glorious Campan next Year, when we must take Care to be early enough. As to floating Batteries if You was to see what a rough piece of Water this Lake is wth a common Breeze, You would soon be convinc'd there is no possibility of having 'em unless You were to build 'em under the Walls of Niagara, or in the Harbour of Frontenac. I should have mention'd before that it will be tho't necessary to leave at least 200 of our 1500 Men here, who may go on wth the Works on the Hill & the Barracks on this Side.

The Conference is just ended & the Indians have declar'd in a seeming hearty Manner, that they will be true to him, my father, & follow him where ever he goes. They are certainly a most necessary and useful set of People to have wth us, but then they are by far ye most troublesome in the World. You can't conceive the Difficulties we have had to struggle wth in getting up here, & here I must acknowledge the Services of the Albany People, who have given us all the Assistance in their Power, notwithstanding their former bad Character, & I esteem a Compy of abot 80 of their young Men wch we have wth us, to be by much the best Company we have. Indeed the Battoe-Men have deserted us, but a whole County is not answerable for the faults of their lowest Set of Men, tho' most of ye English Officers blame Albany without Distinction for the faults of these People.* * * * * Nobody holds it out better than my father & myself. We shall all of us relish a good House over our heads, being all incampt except the General & some few field Officers, who have what are call'd at Oswego, houses, but they would in other Countries be call'd only Sheds, except the fort where my father is. Adieu, Dear Sir, I hope my next will be directed from Frontenac.

I am ever wth a most sincere Regard,

Yours most Affectionately,

JOHN SHIRLEY.

Oswego, 10 o'Clock at Night,
in a Wet Tent, Sepr. 8th, 1755.

P. S. We sent out two Indians wth two of our Albany Men eight days ago, who were within less than half a Mile of the fort at Frontenac, & opposite to ye Harbour, where they stay'd half an hour just at noon, when the French were suppos'd to be all at Dinner, as they did not see a Person stirr either in the Camp or fort: They saw the two Vessells very plain & say they are about as large as our two large ones, one of 'em quite new & unrigg'd. As to the Situa-

* A paragraph entirely personal, is here omitted.

ation of the fort, if they are not much mistaken in the Description they give of the Ground round abo^{t} it, it is such that I think it must be an easy Conquest. Septr 9th. Two of our Indians have just return'd from Niagara, where they have been scouting & treating wth the Otawawa Indians who were returning discontented from the Ohio, from whose Acco^{ts} we have the greatest Reason to believe that they will stand neuter, in Case we attack Niagara. God send us Success that we may get in Time from Frontnac, to go to the other Place where we shall have little to do, & I verily believe fix those Indians who have so lately acted ag^{t} us firmly in our Interest. We have likewise sent Belts & Presents to the far Nations.

Ten o'Clock at Night, Septr. 11th.

We have just reciev'd fresh Intelligence from Frontenac, by wch it appears that the French have abo^{t} 1200 Men there, & they told ye Indian who brings the Acc^{ot} that they were coming here. I suppose they wait for us to go to Niagara first. Our Battoemen desert us in large Numbers, as do the Soldiers who are dissatisfy'd at our being oblig'd to allow 'em no more than half a pound of bread & no Rum. We lost 21 of the latter last Night, 15 of 'em are Schuyler's. Had we but Provisions we might, I am satisfy'd, with our fleet & Train, save the French the Trouble of coming hither, & give You a good Acco^{t} of Frontenac fort & their two Vessells. Our last large Vessell sails very well, the Schooner as ill, we must alter her to a Sloop. We are told we shall have Battoes wth Provisions enough in eight days, but if they continue to leave their Battoes after they have bro't 'em half way, wch 15 of 'em have done, I don't see that we ought to depend upon them, tho' we know they are sett out. We have now only 8 days Bread, Pork & Beef enough, but no Rum or Pease; & what makes this ye more provoking is, that these Provisions have been ready for us in Abundance these two Months at least. Adieu, Dr Sir, excuse Blots & Blunders; I hope my next Epistle will give You a better Acco^{t} of us. I am glad Govr. Hardy is arriv'd. Observe a Letter in ye N. York Paper of Sepr 1st. I think I can see Banyar's Stile in it. Kinner, Schuyler, Col. Ellison, & Mercer, &c., &c., desire to be remember'd to You.

I am Your most Affectionate
faithfull Hum. Servt,

JOHN SHIRLEY.

As to the Number at Frontenac, we judge of it in this Manner: the Indian says they have two Camps, one ye Size of our Regiment, the other as large as Schuyler's, so that 1200 is a moderate Computation; they told him they expected more.

You have by this time rec^{d} Sr F. Robinson's Circular Letter, dated . Are they affraid that the Assemblies sho'd exert themselves beyond their Abilities in defence of their Country?

They have a Knack at hitting off things in this Age on ye other Side the Water.

The 13th. We just got a Reinforcem^t^ of 20 Seneca Indians, & expect more. No bread or Rum yet come.

Morris, My Love to you, I'll write to you Soon. Picket Guard to-Night.

J. L. MORRIS.

Indorsed.—Capt. Shirley.

Gov. Morris to Gov. Hardy, 1755.

Sept. 8th, 1755.

Sir,

I heartily Congratulate you on your safe arrival* to your government, where I hope your Endeavours to promote the public Service will be attended with Success, and that you may in the Course of your Administration meet with every thing that is agreeable to yourself. An unhappy difference that subsists between me and the Assembly of this Province, hinders me from taking the part in the publick measures that my inclinations would lead me to, and I have no hopes of its coming to a short Period.

If I can promote the King's Service Committed to your Charge, or be any way usefull to You, I shall be glad of an Opportunity of doing it, and am,

Dr Sir.

Indorsed.—Draft to Govr. Hardy.

Gen. Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Camp at Oswego, Septr. 9th, 1755.

Sir:

As it may be acceptable to your Honour to know the Situation of the Service which is under my immediate Care, I transmit you the following Acc^t^ of it:

The last Division of the Forces under my Command were twenty-six Days upon their March from Schenectady to this Place, where they did not arrive untill the 2^d^ Instant. The troops are so much reduc'd by Desertion and Sickness, and Absence of Detachments upon Parties & Command, that by a Field Return which I order'd to be taken yesterday, it appears that the number of Men in the three Regiments and Independent Company fit for Duty upon the

* See Gov'r Hardy's letter, p. 399.

Spot don't amount to 1400, out of which we are oblig'd to keep 100 at Work upon a New Fort, and if the Body of the Forces moves from this Place, must leave 300 at least for the Defence of it, so that not 1000 Men will remain for other Service, and of these 60 must be employ'd as Matrosses, & a Number as Pioneers: To this I am to add, that we have suffer'd greatly by Desertion of Battoemen, after being impress'd & even proceeding part of the Way with us, by which means we are in Want of Provisions for any Service that will require ten Days in the Execution.

However, if I am not disappointed of Supplies of Provisions which I hourly expect; I am encourag'd upon the Intelligence I have gain'd since my Arrival here, that with our Naval Force, & the Assistance of the Indians whom I have pick'd up in my Passage thro' the Country of the five Nations, and the Albany Men whom I hir'd to go with me as a Scouting Party of Guards, (both wch may amount to 140 Men) I say I am encourag'd, Sir, to hope that we may proceed upon Action in a very few Days, & that a foundation will be lay'd this Year for such a Campaigne the next, as I flatter myself (provided the Colonies shall then exert a proper Spirit) may secure all points in dispute between us & the French.

As a Meeting of Commissioners from all the Colonies as far Westward as Virginia, inclusive, with me to be appointed by Acts of Assembly, in the Month of October or November, in order to consult upon the most proper Measures to be taken for the general Interest of the common Cause the next Spring may have a good Effect for his Majesty's Service, I mention it to your Honour for your Consideration, & shall do the same to the other Governm^ts^ in a Circular Letter. If such a Convention shall be thought advisable, I would propose New York for the Place of meeting, and the 15th of November the time for it, as I shall be there in my Return to Boston, where I must be present early in December.

As I think a very early Campaigne the next Year necessary, I have sent Orders to Col. Dunbar, the Commanding Officer of his Majesty's two British Regim^ts^ & two Independent Companies of New York, to march those Troops directly to Albany, where I design their Winter Quarters shall be, and to leave at this Place as many of the Troops now with me as can be supported here during the Winter, that they may be assembled ready to act either separately or in conjunction with such Provincial Troops as the Colonies shall think fit to raise ag^st^ the French Settlem^ts^, either upon the Lakes & Ohio, wch last place is very accessible thro' that Route, or ag^st^ any part of Canada, as his Majesty's Service & the general Interest of the Colonies may most require.

The first thought of having a Meeting with Commissioners from the Colonies was suggested to me by the Inclos'd Extract.

As Col. Dunbar's & the late Sir Peter Halket's Regim^ts^ have been greatly reduc'd by the Defeat of the late Major Genl. Braddock, in their March to the Ohio, for the Protection & Service

of the several Colonies of Pensilvania, Maryland, and Virginia in particular; & his Majesty's Service & their further protection require that those Regim^ts should be compleated to 1000 Men each by the beginning of the Spring. I can't but hope that the three before mentioned Gov^ts will readily make Grants for supplying Col. Dunbar & L^t. Col. Gage wth levy Money for that Purpose; & that your Hon^r will be pleas'd to recommend it in the Strongest Terms to the Assembly within your own Gov^t. I have wrote to Govr. Dinwiddie & Govr. Sharpe to the same Effect.

I am with great Regard, Sir,
Your Honour's most Humble,
and most Obedient Servant,
W. SHIRLEY.

Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr.

Indorsed.—Genl. Shirley.

Conference with Indians at Lake George, 1755.

Lake George, 11 Sep^r, 1755, A. M.

Present:
General Johnson,
Major General Lyman,
Col. Ruggles,
Capt. Eyre,
Capt. Peter Wraxall, Secretary for Indian Affairs, Indian Officers, & William Printup, Interpreter.
Aguiotta, an Oneida Sachem, Speaker.

Brother Wariaghejage, sole Superintendant, &c.

When you called us to the late General Meeting at your House, You reminded us of the many Barbarities which the French had shewn to our several Nations, and told us of the Encroachments which the French had made upon our Hunting Lands, to the Southward, and particularly this way.

At the same time it pleased our ffather the King, and you our Brother, to call on us to join you, and exert ourselves in revenging the Injuries we have received, and to relieve our Lands, to all which we agreed.

Brother,

After you had made this Speech to us, there were none of the Confederate Nations who spoke at once and openly, that they would assist you with as many as they could spare, but the Oneida Nation

and I call upon the other Nations now present, whether this is not the truth.

Brother,

Now since you desired us to assist you here, we came, & notwithstanding the proud Speeches of our Enemy's, we have lifted our hands and destroyed them.

Brother,

You hung your War Kettle over at the late Meeting, with 7 heads in it. And now Brother, it seems that you had such a great Fire under it, that it made the Water boil over and destroyed our Enemies, and how will it be when we come to overset the whole Kettle upon them.

Brother,

Now we have thus far complied with your Call upon us, We are all of us determined to return to our several homes and Families for the present, and so we bid you farewell.

Hereupon General Johnson retired to his Tent with the following Officers, who agreed upon a Reply as follows:

Major Gen[l] Lyman,
Col. Ruggles,
Lieut. Col. Whiting,
Major Fitch,
Capt. Eyre,
Sec'y for Indian Affairs.

Brethren,

Gave 2 p[r] Strouds to Cover their Graves.

I am sorry for the loss you have sustained on your side, as well as for that on our own. We have great reason to thank God for the Success we have met with, and our Losses ought rather to warm our Hearts to prosecute the present Undertaking, than produce any Coolness; this both Bravery and Prudence call on us to do.

Brethren,

You have repeated some of the things which past at our late Meeting, I remember the whole very well, and the Engagements entered into on both sides, and am sorry to see they are not fullfilled on yours.

Brethren,

We are not yet got half way; We have had in one day three Engagements with the Enemy. We drove them away and made a great Slaughter of them. Whatever are your reasons for leaving

us in this situation. I must think, and all the World will be I believe of the same opinion, that it is not agreeable to your Promises, nor advantageous to your Characters. However, I shall lay no restrain upon you. We are determined to pursue our first design, to look our Enemies in the Face, and with God's blessing, to secure the safety of our Country, and endeavour to obtain that honour which you by thus abandoning us, will have no share in.

I expect and desire by this Belt that you fulfill your Engagements. (Gave a Belt.)

Before General Johnson made the above Reply, the Sachems came into his Tent, and returned him the Belt of Wampum he had given to go with the second Embassy to the Coghnawagaes, and said:

Brother,

Here is your Belt of Wampum, the Coghnawagaes have joined the French and acted as Enemies, we desire they may never more be permitted to Trade either at Albany or Skenectady.

Two Chief Sachems of the Mohawks, also told the General not to be displeased, that the Indians were returning home, it was unavoidable in their Circumstances, but he should soon see them again, and fresh People with them.

Lake George, 12th Sepr, 1755.

Present:

General Johnson,
Peter Wraxall, Sec'y for Indian Affairs,
William Printup, Interpreter,
Sachems of the lower Mohawk Castle & Oneida.

Brother,

We heared your Reply of Yesterday, & we assure you our going home is not owing any Coldness of Heart, or the least dread of our Enemy, it is our constant Custom after an Engagement in which we have any Loss, to return home for a little while, and Chear our People, and then return with fresh Vigour and attack our Enemies, & you may be assured Brother this is our present Intention.

We must intreat of you and earnestly beg, that the Coghnawagaes may never be again permitted to come and Trade at Albany or Oswego, or looked upon as our Friends, they have behaved treacherously, and we are determined no longer to look on them as our Brethren. Our Indignation does, and will daily increase against them. We hope you may not make a sudden Peace with the French, as was done last War, and leave us in the Lurch and disappointed of venting our resentments upon our Enemies.

We hope you will stand to your Engagements, and persevere in your designs.

Gave a large Belt.

A true Copy from the Original Minutes Exam^d by me, Peter Wraxall, Sec'y for Indian Affairs.

Indorsed.

Copy Conference with the Indians at Lake George, Sepr 11th, 1755.

Col. Dunbar to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Philada, Sepr 12th, 1755.

Sir:

As you informed me you had at the request of Genl Braddock, Provided a number of Beeves and other Provisions for the use of the troops then under his Command, and M^r. Leake, the Comessary of the stores, having represented to me that he has no Cattle fit to kill now remaining of those he brought with him to this place, I must therefore desire you will order one hundred & seven of those Beeves to be delivered to Mr. Leak, for the use of the troops now under my Command, who thinks that Number will be Sufficient for the present, and will pass his receipt for them.

THO. DUNBAR.

To the Honble
Gov. Morris.

Indorsed,

Col. Dunbar, Sepr 12th, 1755.

Col. Dunbar to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Philad^a, Sepr the 12th, 1755.

Sir—

The Cattle M^r. Leak has, he tells me are so low in flesh by travelling, that they are not fitt to be Issued to the Troops, and those you had bought by General Braddock's desire, are in good order, he thinks it for ye good of the Troops and better management, to kill of those under your direction for present use; if you pleas to order them to be delivered him, he will give you his rece^t, as he is ap-

pointed by His Majesty Comissary of Stores and Provisions. I imagin his rece^{t} will be proper and Sufficient. I am,

Sir,

Your most humble and most

Obedient, Servant,

THO. DUNBAR.

Gov'r Morris.

Indorsed.—Col. Dunbar. Sep. 12th, 1755.

JAMES STEVENSON TO RICHARD PETERS, 1755.

Sir:

After I sent away mine of the 13th, I heard that Mr. Claus was come to Town. He delivered the Inclosed to me Yesterday, which I suppose will give you a particular Acco^{tt} of the late Engagement. As he is busy with the Indians that are come from the Camp, and I believe going to Canagohare wth them, I have heard nothing further from him than I wrote to you.

Divine Providence has been propitious to our Army. Sundry little Incidents happened which gave time to our Army to gett in Readiness; by all Acco^{tts} they were very unprepared; Their Cannon all Pointed toward the lake, no kind of an Entrenchment made, But what trees they cutt down and laid Loggs upon one another, while they heard the party retreating, and they had not time to surround the whole even in that slight Manner. A Gentleman told me this morning that when the French Grenadiers march'd up so boldly, he expected no less than they would enter the Camp. The French General still complains that the Canadians & Indians deserted him, nay, he says betrayed him; But had they taken their first Rout directly to the Camp, in all probability our People would have been taken on a Surprize. It is very Unacountable they should continue Unintrenched a fortnight in an Enemy's Country.

I am, Sir,

Your most humble Servant.

JA. STEVENSON.

P. S.—I hope you will keep those hints till you hear further—Success covers all Mistakes.

Directed.—To Richard Peters, Esqr, Philadelphia.

Indorsed.—James Stephenson, Sept. 15, 1755. Rec'd ye 20 Sept. by the Post.

Rec'd 18th Sept. 1755, and forwarded by S^{r} y^{r} most humble Serv^{ts},

LIVINGSTON & ALEXANDER.

Lt. Gov. Phips to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Boston, 15 Sep. 1755.

Sir:

I should have transmitted to you the inclosed Vote of the Assembly of this Province soon after it passed, if I had not been informed that in your Government there was no restraint laid upon any Vessels exporting provisions, provided the master would Swear they were not intended to supply the French. I have since been informed that a number of Vessels, bound to this Province are stopped at Philadelphia. I must intreat your Honour that the restraint may be taken off, & that any Vessels bound hither may be suffered to sail upon giving security to land their provisions in this Province, otherwise not only the Inhabitants in general may be put to inconvenience, but the attempts making against the Enemy, which it is the design of the restraint to promote, may be greatly impeded.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedt,

humble Servants,

P. PHIPS.*

The Honble Govr Morris.

Indorsed.—Lieut Govr Phips Inclosing ye Vote of the Assembly, requesting the Embargo may be taken off.

Gov. Morris to Col. Dunbar, 1755.

Philada, Sepr 17th, 1755.

Sir:

I wrote you some time ago, with Mr. Benzill's recruiting accounts, for your own & the late Sr Peter Halket's regiments, requesting you would enable me to discharge them. But he informs me that some difficulties still remain; that he has received no money, and that he is very much distressed for want of it; and as He was employed by me, he Expects that I will Comply with the promises I made him upon the occasion, which I think it my duty to do. My Ignorance of military matters is such, that I am uncertain whether an application to you upon this head was proper or not, and if I have been mistaken, you will Excuse me. I Have the King's orders, Signified by ye Secretary of State, for raising men for the two British regiments, and Genl Braddock's directions as to the terms upon which I should raise them, and being thus warranted, I cannot doubt but

* See Colon. Rec. Vol. VI. p. 616.

the Expences attending that service will be punctually paid by the Government. But as the Gen[l] to whom his Majesty directed me to apply for money for that service is dead, I shall be obliged to draw bills upon the treasury for the money I have Expended, in pursuance of the King's general orders and Mr. Braddock's particular request, unless you think it proper to supply the money I have advanced upon this occasion; and in case you do not, I must desire your certificate as to the number of men You have received from Mr Benzil, which I shall remit to the treasury, with coppys of the Gen[ls] letters to me as Vouchers for my Draughts.

Indorsed.—Dft. to Col[l] Dunbar.

Minutes of a Council of War at Oswego, 1755.

At a Council of Warr, held at the Camp at Oswego, on Lake Ontario, September 18th, 1755.

His Excellency WILLIAM SHIRLEY, Esq[r]., Major General and Commander in Chief of all His Majesty's Forces in North America.

Lieut. Col Ellison,
Lieut. Col. Mercer,
Major Littlehales,
Major Bradstreet, Adjutant General.
Col. Schuyler,
Capt'n Pattin,
Capt'n Barford,
Capt'n Broadley, Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Vessells on Lake Ontario.

William Alexander, Secretary, who was duly sworn to the faithfull Execution of his Office.

His Excellency acquainted the Council, that through the great Desertion of Battoe-men, and Scarcity of Waggons on the Mohawk's River, and the Desertion of Slaymen on the Great Carrying Place at Oneida, the bringing up of Provisions and other Stores to this Place had been so much retarded, that there has not been, at any time since his Arrival, a sufficient Quantity of dry Provisions here to enable him to proceed upon the Expedition under his Command; That now as a Number of Battoes is hourly Expected, with a great Quantity of the Species of Provisions wanted, he has conven'd them in Council, to let them know his Intention of going immediately upon Action, and to ask their Opinions and Advice on several points relative to the Service, and in Order thereto, should inform them of the Intelligence, he had procur'd of the Situation and Strength of the Enemy.

His Excellency then acquainted the Council, that before he left the Great Carrying Place at Oneida, he employ'd two trusty intelligent Indians, and two Albany Traders to go to Niagara, & bring him from thence an Account of the Strength & Designs of the French; That they return'd about fourteen Days ago, with the following Account, vizt., the Indians, who went into the French Fort, and continu'd two Days there, report that their Works, wch consisted part of Stone, but chiefly of Logs, are very weak and in ruinous Condition; That their Garrison then consisted of about sixty French, and that they had upwards of an hundred Indians about the Fort (chiefly Piarondacks;) That the French told them they had, for some time, expected 900 Indians from Canada, and a large Quantity of Stores, & were under some Concern least the Vessels that were to have brought them should be taken by one of the English Vessells, they having heard nothing of them for some Weeks; That they had frequent Letters from Fort du Quesne, and expected every Day the Arrival of Troops and Indians from thence; that they told them, they had never been in so sharp a Fight as the Engagement with the English, and that thirty of their Party were kill'd in it: The Indian Spies added, that the French Indians were much disgusted at the Treatment they had receiv'd from the French in the Division of the Spoils, & at their Behaviour during the Action, & were most of them returning to their Castles; that they saw there many English Scalps, & much Cloaths and Furniture in particular, one very rich Saddle, all which, they understood, had been taken from the English at Monongahela; and that the French had at Niagara seventy or eighty very large Battoes, with which they told them they intended to meet the English Vessels & board them, which last Circumstance, His Excellency observ'd to the Council, was confirm'd by another Indian who lately came from Niagara, and upon meeting one of our Row Gallies upon the Lake, caution'd Captain Ayscough, the Commander of it, against proceeding further, for that Reason.

His Excellency also inform'd the Council, that one of the Indian Spies, who, since his leaving Niagara, hath been wth the Outawawa Indians, which had assisted the French in the Action at Monongahela, told him, that those Indians had declar'd their Readiness to him to lay down the Hatchet ag^st the English, as were also others of the Western Indians; whereupon, His Excellency hath sent two Indians and two Albany Traders to them with Belts of Wampum, to invite them to enter into an Alliance with the English, or at least into a State of Neutrality between them and the French.

His Excellency further acquainted the Council, that upon his Arrival at this Place, he sent a Party of the Albany men & two Indians to Fort Frontenac, upon the North East Edge of Lake Ontario, to procure Intelligence of the Situation and Strength of that Fort, as also of what Number of Forces were encamp'd about it; that they return'd about ten days ago with the following Account, vizt., That

they landed upon an Island about three quarters of a Mile distant from the Fort, From whence they had a full View of it, and of the Land behind it, which was clear'd of Trees, and rises with a gradual Ascent; That the Fort stands a little way up a Bay, at a few Yards distance from the Water, and appears to be something bigger than the Fort at Oswego, & is surrounded wth a Stone Wall; that they had likewise a distinct View of two Vessells of about 40 Tons each, wch lay moor'd in the Harbour near the Fort, and appear'd to them to have Guns mounted, & to be unrigg'd; Also, that they had a distinct View of a Regular Encampment at the East End of the Fort, in which they counted six large Marquis Tents; and that they judg'd from the Extent of it that it might contain three or four hundred men; That upon the Side of the Bay opposite the Fort there is a point of Land about half a Mile's distance from it; That between this Point and the Island, where they landed, there is a small Island (said to be inhabited by about twenty Indian Families,) situated within about three quarters of a Mile's distance of the Fort; That they think there is deep Water between these Islands and the main Land, and that on the back of the two Islands & point of Land there are two others at about a Mile & half distance, & others adjacent; and upon being ask'd if they could discover a Number of Battoes near the Fort, they answer'd they could discover none.

His Excellency also acquainted the Council, that an Indian, who came here soon after his Arrival, & who had left Fort Frontenac nine Days before, inform'd him that when he left it the French had about 30 Men within the Fort, & 600 Soldiers in Tents without it; That he saw a great Number of Barrels of Powder within it, & that the Stone Wall wch surrounds it was about six feet thick, & that it was mounted with a great many Guns, large & small; That an Onondaga Indian now in the Camp, call'd Red Head, who says he left Fort Frontenac about five Weeks ago, has inform'd his Excellency that the Walls of Fort Frontenac were built with Stone and about six feet thick; that the Fort is a weak one, that it had two Encampments about it, one of Canadians, wch is in View of the Island, on wch the said Party had landed, and another of Regular Troops from France, wch is in a hallow on the other Side of the Fort, & not in View of the Island; that the French told him they expected soon from Canada a much larger Number of Troops, with an Officer they call'd the General, which were lately arrived from France, and that the Commandant of the Fort told him that then they should make the English a Visit at Oswego and attack it.

His Excellency further inform'd the Council, that Major General Johnson, in a Letter dated 1st September from the Camp at the Lake, lately call'd Lake Sacrement, now nam'd Lake George, says, that some of the Indians, whom he had sent for Intelligence to Canada, & were returned from thence, inform'd him that the French told them there were 300 Canoes gone to Cadaraqui.

That His Excellency, upon laying this Intelligence, and the Acc^t of the Arrival of Troops from France this Summer together, & upon considering these Circumstances in particular, that all Intercourse between Frontenac & Niagara seems to have been suspended for some time, & that the French have lay'd still so long at the former of those Places, it appears not improbable to him that their Design may be, in case the whole Forces here, or much the greater part of them should be employ'd in an Attempt against Niagara (which, from its Distance of 150 Miles, and the advanc'd Season of the year may possibly take up thirty Days, or perhaps more in the Execution) to make a Descent in the mean time upon Oswego from Fort Frontenac, wch is computed at not above 50 Miles distance from it: That what makes this more probable is the great Importance of wch Oswego is to the securing the back parts of his Majesty's Western Colonies on this Continent, and for maintaining the Dominion over the Great Lakes, & the Country behind the Apalachian Mountains ag^st the French, & the present expos'd State this Place would be in, unless a Strong Garrison shall be left to protect it; That the Number of Effectives upon the Spot fit for immediate Duty, in the three Regiments & Independent Company, including Serjeants & Corporals, amount to 1376 men; That besides these Troops the Number of Irregulars, consisting of Albany Men & Indians, which attend the Army, amount to about 120 Men.

His Excellency also inform'd the Council, that for securing the Fort at this Place ag^st any Sudden Attack from the Eminence wch commands it upon the opposite point on the East side of the River, he had Ordered a Strong Wooden Fort, surrounded with Picketts & a Ditch, & to be mounted with Cannon, to be built there with all possible Speed, and that the same was begun, and the Ground on which it is to be erected will be soon picketted in, & the whole building finish'd in about four Weeks; and that he had caus'd a Sloop & a Schooner of 60 Tons each, & two Row Gallies of 20 Tons each, all equipp'd in a Warlike manner, together with eight Whale Boats, capable of holding 12 or sixteen men each, to be built.

His Excellency then acquainted the Council, that he propos'd, as soon as a Sufficient Quantity of Provisions should arrive, to proceed upon the intended Attempt for the Reduction of the French Fort and Settlements at Niagara, with such a Number of the Troops now upon the Spot, such of the aforesaid Vessells & Whale Boats, & such a Train of Artillery, as can be spar'd for that Service, leaving a sufficient Force for the Protection of this Fort ag^st any Sudden Attack, which may probably be made upon it by the French from Fort Frontenac in his Absence.

That His Excellency proposes to take with him on the aforesaid Attempt 600 Regulars, including Gunners & Matrosses, besides the Albany Men and Indians, & a Train of Artillery, consisting of one Cannon carrying an eighteen pound Shott, and four twelve pounders, one ten inch Mortar, one seven inch Hoyett, two Royals, & five

small Swivel Hoyets, with the four Vessells before mention'd, the Whale Boats, and a suitable number of Battoes; and that then the Force remaining for the Defence of this Place will be about 700 Effective men, two Cannon of twelve pounders, four nine pounders, ten six pounders, six three pounders, and eight Cohorns.

His Excellency then desir'd the Opinion & Advice of the Members of this Council on the following points, vizt.

First. Whether they were of Opinion that the Force propos'd for the intended Attempt against Niagara was a sufficient one, or what other they judg'd to be so?

Secondly. Whether they judge the Force propos'd to be left here, together with the New Fort building on the opposite point, to be sufficient for the Defence of this Place against any probable Attempt from Fort Frontenac, during His Excellency's Absence on the above Service?

Thirdly. Whether they think it will not be expedient to make a Feint at the same time at Cadaraqui, or a Real attempt to burn the French Vessells there?

Fourthly. Whether they think it necessary to build another Fort or Redoubt on the West Side of this Fort, on the Rising Ground, which commands it?

Fifthly. Whether it will not be advisable for his Majesty's Service, to prepare materials here this Winter, and build, as soon as may be, one or more Vessells of a larger Size than the largest of those already built, and capable of mounting ten six pounders, besides Swivels, & also two more Row Galleys, and 100 more good Whale Boats?

Every thing herein propos'd was unanimously agreed to, except the feint at Cadaraqui, wch was not agreed to, I will send the Minutes of the last Council when it is wrote out, & the Plan talk'd of so long ago by the Oppor^{ty}.

Octr 1st, 1755. J. S.

Indorsed.

Copy.—Minutes of a Council of Warr, held at the Camp at Oswego. Sepr 18th, 1755.

Extract from Major General Shirley's Letter to Col. Thomas Dunbar.

Dated from the Camp at Oswego, Sep. 19, 1755.

"Upon the Advices I have received since my last to you, from "Gentlemen of the greatest Zeal for his Majesty's Service, as well "as the best Judges in Pennsylvania and the other Western Colo-"nies, I am convinced that the Inlisting of Apprentices and In-"dented Servants there, will greatly disserve his Interest, as well as

"be, in most Cases, grievous to the Subject; and would therefore "recommend it to you in the Strongest Manner to avoid doing it. "It is what I have observ'd most strictly in recruiting for my own "Regiment, not only within my own Government, but in all the "other Colonies, where my officers have been sent upon that Service. "And I desire you will order the Officers of your own and the late "Sir Peter Halket's Regiments, as also those of the Independent "Companies, to do the Same in their Recruiting."

Indorsed.

Extract of Gen. Shirley's letter to Col. Dunbar. Sept. 19th, 1755.

Sec'y J. Pownall to Gov. Morris, for Statistics, 1755.

Whitehall, Septr ye 19th, 1755.

Sir,

It being of the greatest Importance that His Majesty should in the present Situation of Affairs, be truly and exactly informed of the real State of Defence of all His Colonies in America, as well in relation to the Ordnance and Stores of War which are in each Colony respectively, as to the Forts and Fortifications, and the Number of their Inhabitants; I am directed by the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, to desire you will with all possible Dispatch prepare and transmit to their Lordships, to be laid before His Majesty, an exact and particular Account thereof, with respect to the Colony under your Government, in which you are to express the present actual State and Quantity of the Canon, small Arms, Amunition and other Ordnance, and Military Stores belonging to the said Colony, either in the publick Magazines, or in the Possession of the Militia or other private Persons, together with the true State of all Places either already fortified, or which you judge further necessary to be fortified, with your opinion at large, in what manner His Majesty may further contribute to the Security and Defence of the said Colony, and also as exact an Account as you can obtain of the real Number of Inhabitants, Whites and Blacks; how many of the former were able to bear Arms; of what Number the Militia is composed, and how armed, mustered and trained.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient,

Humble Servant,

JOHN POWNALL.

Sec'y.

Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr,

Lt Govr of Pennsylvania.

Indorsed.—John Pownall. 19 Septr, 1755.

* See Letter T. Penn, p. 420.

Thomas Penn to Governor Morris.

Duplicate.

Sir,

Since I wrote you last, we have received an account from Virginia that General Braddock had fallen into an ambuscade, and was defeated, himself and many Officers killed, and six hundred private men killed and wounded, but we have no Letters frum Col. Dunbar. or account to what place he is retired; this News gives us great pain for our back Inhabitants, especially as it was reported the Col. intended to march to Philadelphia immediately, for Winter Quarters. I am indeed under apprehensions that you and my Nephew may be in great danger, as you were so far to the Westward as Shippensburgh, but a few Days after the Action; the Letters are dated from Wills's Creek, the latter end of July, about sixteen Days after the Action, when they do not say Col. Dunbar was returned thither.

We are very much pleased with your Journey to Shippensburgh, and hope it has prevented such a pannick seizing the people, as to cause them to leave their Plantations in the Settled part of the Country, where a number fit to make a stand could be got together; I immediately sent an extract of your Letter of the 8th of July, to the Secretary of State, who is well satisfied with your proceedings. The making a Road will now be deferred, as I suppose Col. Dunbar does not intend to attempt an attack, if he should have saved his Cannon, which we rather think he left behind him. The behaviour of our Assembly in refusing to enable you to make Provision for the guarding Convoys to the Road Cutters, and for the Security of our Frontiers, which now becomes much more necessary than you thought it at the time you sent your Message to the House, deserves the highest censure; and if Mr. Dunbar is retired without leaving a Guard at the Pass, or in proper places for the Security of our Frontiers, you should again press the Assembly to pass a Militia Law, and provide Arms for the defence of their Country, and if they delay doing it, send a Bill to them for that purpose, drawn in as easy a manner to the People as you can form it, without giving up any part of the prerogative of the Crown delegated to us. This, whatever the event of it is, will be of use, and if they should refuse such a Bill, make it still more plain, that the Country will never be put into a condition of defence, while Persons principled against it are admitted into the Legislature.

Your dispersing the accounts from Nova Scotia in the back part of the Country, was very proper, and I hope may have a good effect on the minds of our Indians, as well as our own people, so as to prevent the former on Braddock's defeat, from deserting us. In the accounts I have seen of the late action, nothing is said of our Indians which you wrote me Braddock had engaged to go with him, I hope we shall soon have a very particular account of that affair, which so much perplexes us.

I have received the two Bills which you have refused, but think your observation that they did not want confidence in you, while they had hopes you would consent to continue the power over the Publick Money in their hands, not well founded, as they appointed Persons to lay out the Money before they saw your amendment to the Bill; that amendment we much approve, and like it better than if it was in the words of our instruction, which tho' it means the same thing, yet mentioning ours or the Lieutenant Governor's consent, has a more ungracious sound accompanying it to the common people.

I think with you, that Mr. Franklin's having signed that vile Report upon our answer to the Address of the Assembly, and printed the Secretary of States' Letter contrary to your order, shews plainly he is not to be depended upon to assist in promoting the Publick Service, in a way the most agreable to the Government. I make no doubt he differs from the Quakers about the Militia Law, but believe he has no great desire to lessen the power of the Assembly. I have mentioned what you say about him to the Secretary of State, who told me General Braddock had represented him as having done considerable Services.*

You may be assured I shall watch every opportunity of suggesting at proper times what appears to me necessary for the defence of Pennsylvania and the other Colonys, and if we should enter into a War, as I think we shall, I believe the assistance of Parliament will be desired to the purpose mentioned in your Letter.

I believe the Board of Trade has ordered some account of the Colonys to be drawn up, Mr. Pownal having applyed to me for the number of People in Pennsylvania, probably in order to fix on quotas of Men or Money in case of a War.†

The King arrived in Town Tuesday Evening, and we shall, I suppose, soon be able to form some more certain Judgement what will be the consequence of our warlike preparations. The French having fortified Dunkirk, almost as compleatly as before the Treaty of Utrecht. We have the satisfaction to hear the King of Spain does not intend to join France, and we have secured in case of a Land War, a very large Army of Russians and Germans, so that we seem prepared for the worst here. A large Sum of Money has been sent in two Ships of War to Virginia, but I do not hear yet of any Officers being ordered thither. If any thing further occurs proper to communicate, I shall write you, as the Ship will not sail these three or four Days. Lady Juliana thanks you for your compliments.

I am,
Sir,
Your very affectionate Friend,
THO. PENN.

London,
September 19th, 1755.

* See page 418. † See Colon. Rec., Vol. VI., 327, &c.

I shal by Capt. Young send an answer to your Letter of the 1st July.

Indorsed.

Mr. Penn, 19th Sept'r, 1755.

Gov. Morris to Admiral Boscawen, 1755.

Sir:

I have received your Letter of the 23d of May,* and also a Letter from Sir Thos Robinson, informing me of your being appointed to the Command of his Majesty's Fleet in America. I have the Honor, Sir, to congratulate you thereupn, and also to assure you of my Intentions to concur with you and assist in every measure which may prove to his Majesty's Service and the good of the Colonies, and I cannot but have the most sanguine Hopes of success, when I consider to whom His Majesty has been pleased to intrust the Execution of all Naval operations in these parts.

If Provision or Stores of any kind should be wanted I will take the earliest Opportunities of having them supplied upon your Application.

I sincerely congratulate you, sir, upon the Advantage you have already gained over the French, and I heartily wish and expect the increase of them.

I am,

Sir.

I inclose you the Copies of the Letters relating to the Affair of Mr. Johnson.

I have laid an Embargo† upon all Provisions to prevent the French from receiving any supply.

Indorsed.—Sepr 19th, 1755. Dft to Admrl Boscawen.

* See p. 322. † See Col. Rec. VI., p. 451.

Gov. Morris to Gov. Lawrence, 1755.

Sep. 19th, 1755.

Sir:

I congratulate you with the greatest Pleasure upon the Success of his Majesty's Arms in your Province, and upon the Honor you must necessarily derive, from the great Share you had in the Plan of Operation.

The Remains of the two Regiments, lately employed to the Westward, have been encamped near this Town about three weeks, under the Command of Coll. Dunbarr, who, I believe, proposes soon to march to New York, on his way to Albany.

I give you joy, sir, of the advantage lately gained over the French by Mr. Johnson, and I flatter myself it may be of great Service in Respect to the Indian Affairs, which are certainly of the greatest Consequence in all Expeditions upon this Continent.

Indorsed.—Sepr 19th, 1755. Dft. to Govr Lawrence.

Gov. Dinwiddie to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Virga, Williamsburg, Septr 20th, 1755.

Sir:

I receiv'd Your Favo of the 20th ulto. I am really very sorry, & surpriz'd at the unmannerly Message sent You by the Assembly. Surely if Differences subsist between you and them, good manners is due you as the supreme Magistrate.

At same Time I am sorry Your Instructions prevented Your accepting of their Vote for 50,000; with that money & what we have rais'd here, wou'd have made a good Figure in prosecuting the Plan I wrote You the 29th of July; but as your Assembly appear obstinate in not doing what is their Duty at this Period, I must leave off any thoughts of it at this Time.

After the Defeat of our Forces, if Colo Dunbar* had entrench'd himself, built a Fort & sent into the Governors for Reinforcements, he wou'd have prevented the French, &c., going to Niagara from the Ohio, & at the same Time facilitating the Operations of the next Campaign. Instead of this, his great inclinations of going to Your City, he left our Frontiers, expos'd to the Insults of the Enemy by carrying with him the whole Regulars, the six Pounders & Cohorns. If he had made another Attempt I doubt not of having reinforc'd him with 1000 men, who now must be employ'd all the Winter in protecting our Frontiers, & to be in readiness for next Year.

* See Col. Rec. Vol. VI., p. 602.

I have not omitted writing to the Ministry the unaccountable Conduct of Your Assembly; the Dangers we are in from the German Roman Catholics, & I have no doubt the next Sessions they will seriously consider of it, make some Alterat^n in Your Constitution.

I much want to hear of Genl Shirley. I am under great Concern for him, as no doubt they have collected all the Forces they cou'd to Niagara, as I hear most of their men are going from their Fort on Ohio to that Place. Pray write me the News from thence, & of Genl Johnson's success against Crown Point.

I wish You Health, more Ease & satisfaction in Your Government than I conceive You now enjoy, & am with great Truth,

Sir,

Your most obed^t h'ble Servant,

ROBT. DINWIDDIE.

P. S.—Pray give my Complim^ts to Cap^s Orme if with You. I have not heard from him since my Express.

I give You the trouble of the enclos'd to Genl Shirley, which I pray the Fav^o of You to forw^d by first Opportunity, as I know not where to direct to him.

Governor Morris.

Indorsed.—Sepr 20, 1755. Govr Dinwiddie.

Capt. John Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Dear Sir,

I am set down in hopes I may have a Minute to write to You in. By my last I inform'd You that we were going to Cadaraqui, or Frontenac, & so it was then determin'd by the General in his own Mind; We have since had further Intelligence from Niagara, wch has alter'd him, & it was Yesterday determin'd in a Council of Warr to go as soon as possible upon the Attack of the last mention'd Place: The Council unanimously agreed to every thing wch was propos'd by the General; & gave it as their Opinions, that 600 Men, including Matrosses, wth our one 18 pound & 4 12 pound brass Cannon, 1 10 Inch brass Mortar, 1 7 Inch Iron Hoyet, 2 7 Inch Iron Royals, wth five Swivel Hoyetts, &c., is a sufficient force to go with ag^t the fort at Niagara; & that the Troops we leave behind, wth the Nine, Six & four pound Cannon, &c., will be sufficient to defend this Place ag^t any Attack wch will probably be made upon it from Frontenac. You know what our Naval force is I believe; The two large Vessells are abo^t 70 Tons burthen each, & carry each of 'em 4 fine 4 pounders, & one 3 pound Cannon wth twelve Swivels: the two Row Gallies have each Seven Swivels, and we have Seven Whale boats. If our

Provisions come up we may set off in five days. This day finishes all our Bread & flour in Store, but we have in Sight some Battoes, wch I hope will deliver a large Quantity of the Articles most wanted; & as both Men & Officers are pick'd, I dare say we shall give a good Acct of ourselves. Col. Ellison stays here; Col Schuyler & Staats go wth us. My father goes in the Sloop; that & the Schooner carry our Powder Ordnance & some Provisions, & we are to put as many Men into them & the Row Gallies as we can: we shall find the Whale boats of vast Service to us, but I fear what Battoes we are forc'd to take wth us must be left by the way, if they are not overset, for the least Puff of Wind so ruffles this Lake, that one of our Battoes cannot I think well live in it; some say this will oversett our enterprize & force us to come back, but this I am far from believing myself, as I am sure we can do if we must leave 'em, by sending one of the Row Gallies back for more Provisions after we may have landed what she first carrys. We shall add to our 600 Men Seventy or eighty Indians & some few Albany Men; many of the latter we are forc'd to make Battoemen of to fetch Provisions hither from the German flatts; Three Whale Boats, wth 12 Men each, are just gone to look into Frontenac harbour, & if we have Provisions enough we shall sett off on their Return. For want of Provisions it will be impossible to leave a Garrison this Winter at Niagara in Case we succeed. We must knock it down & visit it early in the Spring. We may possibly destroy fort Fronto, on the other Side the Lake, in our way back, and perhaps have time afterwards to burn or take the two French Brigantines in Frontenac Harbour. All I am uneasy about is our Provisions. Our Men have been upon half Allowance of Bread these three Weeks past, & no Rum given to 'em; We have many ill of fluxes, & some of the dry bellyache, wch the Men attribute to drinking Water without Rum, but that is not the Cause of it, I am sure, for we have more Officers in proportion ill than Men.

We have receiv'd the News of Genl Johnson's repulsing the French Party who attempted to force his Intrenchments. I congratulate You upon this piece of Success, but surely the Victory would have been much more compleat if Mr. Johnson had, (upon the Enemy's fire growing slack & irregular, as he observes it did,) sallied from behind his Loggs wth his Troops & Indians, who were at that time warm & in high Spirits & follow'd them.

The News of this Defeat, wch we have made as much of as possible, has given great Spirits to our Troops, & inspir'd the Indians wth a Spiritt of Revenge, wch will, I hope, turn much to our Advantage. They, wth our Troops, had been considerably dispirited before by fluxes, &c., but this good News, wth the Advice of Bread & Rum's being near us, seems to have reviv'd 'em greatly. My father yesterday call'd all the Indians together & made 'em a Speech on the Subject of Genl Johnson's Engagemt, wch he calculated to inspire them wth a Spirit of Revenge, & it had the desir'd Effect, for at night, in feasting upon a Bullock wch he order'd 'em upon the Occasion, they

roasted in *their way*, & eat the Govr of Canada, had a grand Warr dance, & shew'd a Spirit quite satisfactory to all of us.

Staats will soon send You, if not by this Conveyance, a Plan of this Place, wth the new fort building & a Redoubt intended; the new fort goes on very well, & I believe, if we can get up Provisions, we may have barracks sufficient to lodge 700 of our Men here this Winter, & 15 boat builders are order'd to be sent from Boston to build us 100 Whale boats ag^t the Spring, & Carpenters will be sent to build, by that time, a Vessel of 100 Tons You know how my father employs every body who are near him, he makes me write all his Letters. Alexander is otherwise employ'd, & a most usefull Man to him. I will not again appologize for my unintelligible Scrawls, but am, wth the sincerest Regard & Affection,

Dr Sir,

Your most Oblig'd & faithfull

Humble Servant,

JOHN SHIRLEY.

Oswego, Septr 22d, 1755.

100 of our 600 will be employ'd in the Train.

—

Sepr 25th. Orders are just now is u'd for the Troops destin'd for the Attack of Niagara to hold themselves in Readiness to imbark to-morrow; so that if we go at all we shall be all gone from hence ye 27th; but I am told out of doors, that all the field Officers think it too Rash an Attempt, & I have heard so much of it, that I think it my Duty to let my father know what I hear. They say that in the last Council they were not ask'd whether it was advisable to go wth such force as they find we have; they gave it as their Opinion, that the force prepar'd to go ag^t the French fort, & that to stay behind, were both sufficient to answer the Services intended for 'em, but that they are now convinc'd our force is not sufficient, great Numbers being in the Hospitals ill of fluxes, &c., & Numbers ill in their Tents, who won't go to the Surgeons for fear of being sent to the Hospitals, wch are in fact very bad ones, being only Shedds, wch won't keep out a small Shower of Rain, & we have unluckily had for this Week past continu'd Rains as heavy as I ever saw; they say our Battoes will never get there, & that in short, the Season is so far advanc'd that if we had Provisions we could not get back again. As to our Provisions, our present Stock will allow us to take 42 days' Provisions, ($\frac{2}{3}$^d Allowance of dry Provis^s only,) & leave the Garrison behind to depend, in a few days, upon what we have Advice is on ye way hither. Our Whale Boats return'd Yesterday. They went into the Harbour, & one of the Officers landed less than half a Mile from ye fort, & saw ye whole Incampm^t from a tree he got into; their Acco^ts agree wth the French Gen^ls Papers, taken by Johnson,

by wch it appears he detach'd 500 of his Troops the 1st of Augt last to Frontenac; those Papers are sent to my father, & I have seen the Genls Order of March, &c., wch he gave to the Comr of this Detachmt, so that these last 500 make up their force there near 900, besides Indians, of wch it is told us by our Indians, they have a large number, over 500; this I don't believe, tho' they sent a Party of 'em here who scalp'd three of our Soldiers who were making Oars ¼ of a Mile from the new fort yesterday, & were gone wth one Prisoner before we could catch 'em; however we immediately, tho' it was dark, sent off two Whale boats to endeavour to intercept 'em among the Islands, & the next day a Row Galley went out. Our Whale boats discover'd a Sloop & a Brigg, both as large as our large Vessells, haul'd off in ye Stream before ye fort, one wth her Sails bent, ye other compleatly rigg'd but no sails bent; they saw a Number of large Battoes and one Shallop in the Harbour. The Brigg was out yesterday & had like to have taken our Row Galley, but the Galley out sail'd her. This we did not see, but was inform'd of it at Night by the Whale boat wch came in, so that we did not send the Sloop out after her, & to-day it is quite calm, & thick rainy Weather. The Boats sent after the Indians are not return'd. The Officer who commanded has Orders to destroy 'em if he meets 'em. This Express is just going away. You find I am a pretty constant Correspondent, tho' not the most intelligible one; however, I have so strong a Propensity to do every thing that can possibly be the least Amusement to You, that I shall write on at all hazards by every opporty, tho' I have to say in Excuse for this hasty Scrawl, that my Brother Aid-de-Camp being ill, I may be suppos'd to be much hurry'd at present. I am ever wth much Respect and affection,

Dr Sir,

Your's most Sincerely,

JOHN SHIRLEY.

It is some time since I heard from You.

We bury'd an Offier last Night who dy'd of a fever, & have a great Number ill, tho' the field Officers are tough enough.

Directed,

To the Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr,
Governor & Commander-in-Chief of the
Province of Pennsylvania.—Philadelphia.

Minutes of a Council of War at Oswego, 1755.

Held on Lake Ontario the twenty-seventh of Septr. 1755.

Present:

His Exellency, William Shirley, Esqr., Major General and Commander in Chief of all His Majesties Forces in North America.

Lieut. Col. Ellison,
Lieut. Col. Mercer,
Major Littlehales,
Major Craven,
Major Bradstreet, Adjutant General.
Col. Schuyler,
Capt. Barford,
Capt. Broadley, Command in Chief of his Majesty's Vessels on Lake Ontario.

William Alexander, Secretary, who was duly sworn to the faithful Execution of his Office.

His Excellency acquainted the Council, that since the last Council held on the 18th Instant, the 600 Troops wch he then acquainted them he designed to carry with him upon an Attempt against Niagara, had been drafted & held in readiness to embark; that the Artillery & Ordinance Stores were on board the Sloop Ontario, & a proportion of the Provisions put on board the Sloop Oswego, & the rest in readiness to be loaded on board the Row Gallies, the Whale Boats & Battoes; That he had ordered the Officers & Men to embark Yesterday, & that he found at least four hundred of them would be obliged to go in Battoes; That on Account of the extreme bad Weather wch still continues, & as a sufficiency of Bread and Flower for the Troops wch are to remain here was not then arrived, & he had some late Intelligence & other matters to lay before 'em for their Opinion & advice, he had deferred the Embarkation of the Troops until this day.

His Excellency then acquainted them that Yesterday there arrived at the Camp eight Battoes, containing 40 Barrels of Flour and 13 of Bread, so that there is now in Store 14 days full Allowance of those Species of Provisions for 2000 Mouths, which, upon the best Calculation he could make, was the whole Number of Troops, Albany Men, Indians, Workmen & Followers of the Camp; that of this he judges it will be necessary for him to take to Niagara 21000lb of Bread & Flour, being three Quarters Allowance for 700 Men for 40 days; & that there will then be left in Camp 8000lb of Bread and Flour, being 12 days half Allowance for the Number wch he shall leave here; That by the advices he hath received from the Carrying Place & Mohawk's River, he hath the greatest reason to expect that

that Quantity of dry Provisions will in the space of a few days be augmented to a full Allowance for some Months.

His Excellency further acquainted the Council, that seven days ago he sent a Party of Men with two Officers in Whale Boats to Cadaraqui, to discover the Motions of the French there, that they returned the Night before last, and the Officers made Report, "That "they went into the Harbour of Cadaraqui & could plainly perceive "Fort Frontenac, which appear'd to them to be a regular Square "faced with Stone, that they could plainly see four Embrasures in "the Front facing them, that they could also plainly distinguish an "Encampment there, wch consisted of upwards of 100 Tents; that "they saw two Brigantines of about the Size of the Schooner "Oswego, & a small Sloop at Anchor in the Harbour; that both "of the Brigs appeared to them to be rigg'd, & one of them to "have its Sails bent, & that a Number of Battoes lay near the Walls "of the Fort."

His Excellency also acquainted the Council that Major Genl. Johnson had sent him a Copy of the Order & Instructions given to the French Regular Troops sent to Cadaraqui, wch he took among other Papers from the Enemy in the late Action near Lake George, late Lake St. Sacrement; that by these Papers it appears, that 10 Companies of the Queen's Battallion, marched from Montreal for Cadaraqui in two Divisions, Six Companies in the first, on the first day of August, & 4 Companies in the 2d Division, upon the day following; That 250 Canadean Irregulars at least mov'd wth them, & that they had a Number of Indians at that place besides the Garrison there before, So that the whole Numbers of their Troops, Regulars & Irregulars at present at Cadaraqui, besides Indians, (the Number of wch is uncertain) may, from these Papers & our former Intelligence, be computed at about 1000 Effective Men, including what was in Garrison there before; That by the aforesaid Orders and Instructions, together with the intelligence of an Onandaga Indian now in the Camp, wch his Excellency laid before the last Council, it appears that the French General was expected soon to follow those Troops to Cadaraqui with a considerable force, & that on his arrival there, they were with their whole Strength to make an Attack upon this place.

His Excellency also informed the Council that the Oneida Indians who have been pressing for leave to return to their Castle these 10 days, insisting that it was too late in the Season to go to Niagara in Battoes, went off early yesterday Morning; that on the same Morning the River Indians sent three of their principal Men to let him know that they judged it dangerous to go in Battoes upon the Lake so late in the Year, & were of Opinion that our return from Niagara this Winter would be very doubtful; That the Seneca Indians had sent a Message to the same Effect, & the Mohawk Indians he is informed are of the same Mind; that the Indians in General, for the abovementioned reason, declare their design of returning home in a

few days, & press for his Excellency's leave to do it, expressing their readiness to join the English next Spring with much greater Numbers in any Attempt against the French.

That the Albany Traders, who are best acquainted with this Lake, are of the same Opinion with the Indians as to improbability of making a Passage in our Battoes to and from Niagara this Fall, so as to return before the Winter is too far advanced; & inform him that the Battoes we have, being suited to the Navigation of the Rivers & Creeks between this place & Albany, are so small & liable to be overset, that they cannot live on the Lake while there is any Wind or Swell; & that for this fortnight past there has scarce been a day fit to go upon the Lake with those Battoes.

That Lieu^{t}. Holland, who has resided at this place above three Years, upon being asked by his Excellency what the Course of the Weather was at this Season of the Year, informed him that it was generally very Windy, with heavy Rains, & but very few fair days intervening.

That he is further informed it would be impracticable at this Season of the Year for the Vessels & the Battoes to keep Company with each other upon the Lakes, wch they would probably do if the Men were to be transported in Whale Boats, a suffi^{t} Number of wch may be built by next Spring: That as the Battoes will unavoidably be separated from the large Vessels, there will (on that Acco^{t}, & because the large Vessels will not be able to carry all the Provisions, besides the Artillery & Ordinance Stores,) be a necessity of loading a sufficient Quantity of dry Provisions in the Battoes, wch must be exposed to the Weather, & in danger of being Spoil'd.

That there would be the same danger of spoiling the Men's Ammunition, necessary to be carried in their Pouches, whereby they might be exposed to be cut off in case of an Attack in their March by the Enemy, wch from the weakness of their Fortifications it is most probable, they with their Indians would endeavour to do.

His Excellency also informed the Council, that by the Returns of the Surgeons of the Regiments & the directors of the Hospital, the sickly State of the Soldiers increases daily, which they attribute to the late heavy Rains & want of Barrack to Shelter the Men, & that the Number of sick at present amount to about 300, exclusive of Officers.

That his Excellency proposes to have a sufficient Number of Barracks built here for 1200 Men, & thinks it expedient to have a strong Redoubt erected on the Hill, on the West side of this Fort, before the Winter is too far advanced.

His Excellency then desired the Opinion of the Council upon the whole; whether, under our present Circumstances, they think it most advisable for his Majesties Service, that he should proceed to Niagara, or make any attempt upon the Fort at Cadaraqui this Fall, or to take the advantage of an early Campaign in the ensuing Spring, for doing one or both, according to the Reinforcements we shall then have, &

in the meantime to employ our whole present Strength in expediting the Work necessary here for lodging the Men properly & securing this place against any sudden Attack of the Enemy.

The Council after fully debating what his Excellency laid before them, acquainted him that Several matters of Consequence had occurred to them, wch they conceiv'd ought to be made a part of the State of our present situation, & desired his leave to have them entered on the Minutes of this Council, wch his Excellency consented to, and are as follows, Vizt.: Major Bradstreet declared that from his own Observation, & the Intelligence he had received since his residence here, he is persuaded that about 1650 Cannadeans, went at Sevl times this Summer from Cadaraqui to Niagara in order to proceed to the Ohio; a great part of wch for want of Provisions, must as he judg'd now be on their return to Canada; that a great Number of French Traders every year go from Canada to trade with the Indians living near the French Settlements at Fort Detroit, & to the Westward of it, who at this Season of the Year generally return home to Canada; That their Passage home is by the way of Niagara, & that it is very probable that they & all the French Troops will stop as long as their Provisions will admit of at Niagara, to defend it against the Attempt intended upon it, of wch they doubtless have intelligence.

That we have but few proper Battoe Men here, nor is it possible to have a sufficient Number of them to Conduct the Battoes to Niagara, as the People of the Country who understand the management of them are Cheifly employed in bringing our Provisions to us from Skenactady, & in carrying Provisions to the Army at Lake George, so that very few of the Albany Men are now with us. That the Soldiers cannot conduct the Battoes to Niagara thro' so ruff Water, as is now generally five days in six upon the Lake.

The Council, after mature advisement upon the several before mentioned matters, declared that they were unanimously of opinion that tho' from our advices, there appears to be a great probability of a sufficient Quantity of Provisions arriving here in a short time, they ought not to be depended upon, until their actual arrival, especially as since the last Council, we have had frequent Alarms of Indians in scalping Parties being in this Neighbourhood, one of wch had killed & scalped three of our Men who were at Work near the new Fort building on the opposite side of the River, & had carried off two Prisoners, who may find Opportunities of cutting off our Provision Battoes, in their Passage between the Oneida Carrying Place & Oswego, notwithstanding the precautions wch have been hitherto or may be taken hereafter for their protection; the Consequences of wch would be very fatal to the Troops who remain here, & to the Party that goes to Niagara; this is the more to be apprehended, as most of our Indians are going home, & the French Indians at Cadaraqui may take the advantage of their Absence for that pur-

pose; Also, that it is not adviseable for so many of the Troops to be risqu'd in Battoes on the Lake at this Season of the Year.

That they are unanimously of Opinion, that for the preservation of the Men at this place, it is absolutely necessary that Barracks for the Number of Men proposed by his Excellency, be built without delay; That the Fort already begun on the Hill, on the opposite side of the River be finished as soon as possible, and Cannon mounted in it, to prevent the Enemy from making themselves masters of it; that it is likewise very expedient to erect a Work as soon as may be on the Eminence West of the old Fort & Cannon mounted there, to prevent the Enemy landing on that Side & gaining the Eminence; all wch cannot possibly be effected before the Winter is too far set in, without employing the whole Strength now at this place.

That they are unanimously of Opinion that nothing more can be done at Niagara this Fall than to dislodge the French & demolish their Works there, wch from our intelligence, appears to be so weak as not to make it adviseable for his Excellency to leave a Garrison there without erecting new Works, wch neither the lateness of the Season nor the present Circumstances of our Provisions will admit, so that no effectual possession can be taken of that Pass this Year.

That therefore, upon the whole, they are unanimously & clearly of Opinion that it would be much more adviseable for his Excellency to defer making any Attempt, either against Niagara or Cadaraqui until the next Year, when there is great reason to expect he will be joined in any Attempt against the French by great Numbers of Indians of the five Nations, & draw off some of the far Nations of Indians now in Alliance with the French, most of wch had taken up the Hatchet against the English, and been active against General Braddock on the Ohio; as also, that he may have the advantage of opening the Campaigne at least 15 days earlier than the Enemy can from Montreal, on Accot of the distance of that place from Lake Ontario, & the difficulty of the Navigation thither at that Season, occasion'd by the Rapidity of the Waters of the Great Lake emptying into the River Iroquois; Besides, that his Excellency may then have such a further Number of Forces as may be judged sufficient for the intended Operations upon these Lakes, & a sufficient Number of Whale Boats instead of Battoes, together with a stronger naval force, both wch they think necessary to be provided against next Spring for his Majesty's Service upon the Lake Ontario; and they are unanimously of Opinion that in the meantime it is most adviseable for his Excellency to employ the whole Strength now here in providing Barracks for the Men, erecting Forts on the two Eminences wch Commands this place, & finishing the other necessary Works.

Exam'd by

WM. ALEXANDER, Secy.

Indorsed.—Copy, Minutes of Council held at Oswego.

Gov. Morris to Sheriff oe Phil., 1755.

Sepr 28, 1755.

Sir—

Coll^o Dunbar has represented to me, that the march of the Troops under his command is retarded for want of necessary carriages, at which I am greatly surprised, knowing that numbers of Waggons there are dayly in this town. I have his Majestys Orders signified by the Secretary of State, to assist his officers in Impressing Carriages for the use of the Troops, and must do it if they are not otherwise supplyd, which I wish they may, that so harsh a method may be avoided. I must therefore desire you will afford M^r. Mifflin your best assistance in procuring the necessary carriages, but if that cannot be done, and in time for the march of the Troops on the day the Coll^o shall appoint, you will in that case Impress the number of carriages the Coll^o. may want, in doing of which you will be assisted by a Detachment of the Troops, and the Coll^o. will order them to be paid for, in case the Committee of the Assembly, to whom you should apply, refuse to do it.

To ye Sherrif.

Indorsed.

D^t to the Sheriff. Sepr 28th, 1755.

Petition to Gov. Morris, from Sufferers by Maryland 1755.

Septem^r 29th, 1755.

To ye honarable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Go^vernor of Pennsylvania. honered Sir, we, your humble pationers, Sends you those few Lines to inform you y^t we are very much imposed upon by ye Sherive of Fredrick County, in Meryland, in Comeing to take our Lands from us by a Meryland Right which we have had Survayed by M^r. Wiliam Lyon, Survayer, under M^r. John Armstrong, Survayer for Cumberland County, in Pensylvania, Last Spring, one mans place, viz., Richard Abbett, ye S^d Sherive, Peter Butler, has Got Survayed, by bringing a Captain and a parsel of Souldiers to Gard him while he was So doing, and has Gone to farder Strengthen him Self, protesting y^t in two or three weeks time y^t he will come and take all ye land from from ye forke of Tanolaways Crick, down to ye mouth thereof *Straneind*, and taking of our Goods, Chatels, horses, or any thing y^t he Can find for ye Levies or taxis, which he protends is due to Meryland; So y^t without your honour will protect us, we belive we Shall be all Ruened in a very Short time, So y^t we Desier y^t you will be pleased to Send up a few

Lines by ye bearer hereof, what way or maner we Shall proseed in ye afare which is ye humble Desier of we, your humble patisioners.

WILLIAM LINN,	JOHN COOMBE,
ELIAS STILLNEELL,	ISARAEL HYNES,
WM. HYNES,	JOHN LINN,
RICHARD ABBETT,	JAMES LOWDER,
SAMUEL COOMBES,	JOHN MCCHINEY,
CHRISTR ABBETT,	JAMES MITCHEL,
JOSEPH COOMBE,	SAMUEL CROWN,
WILIAM CLINKERBARD,	JOSEPH COOMBE,

And many others might be had, but notis Cant be givon.

Post. Thos. Stodard, Captain of a fort y^t is Lately areced with in four miles of Wiliam Linns, is Going by Governour Sharps orders to run, ye proven shall Line ye 6th of Acto^r next Ensuing.

Directed.

Samuel Hicks, Moses Hicks.

Indorsed.

Petition Inhabitants of Little Cove and Tonolloways.
reced 6 8ber, 1755.

GOV. MORRIS TO GOV'RS NEW YORK & NEW JERSEY, 1755.

Sir:

In my present Hurry I have only time to send you the inclosed intelligence, which came to my hand about an hour ago, and from which I imagine the Enemys designs are to Post themselves along the West Banks of the Susquehannah, in order to prevent our passing that River, and to cut off the Settlements to the Westward of it, which I am afraid they will find too easy a task, as the people are without Discipline or order, and have but few arms among them.

My Assembly meets to morrow, but whether they will strengthen my hands in a proper manner, I cant take upon me to say.

I am, Sir.

Indorsed.

Copy of a Letter from ye Gov^rs of York & Jersey, Novr ye 2^d, 1755.

Read in Council, 2^d Nov^r, 1755.

Gov. Hopkins to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Newport, September 30th, 1755.

Sir,

The Government, under your Honour's immediate Direction, at this critical Conjuncture, I make no Doubt, have taken the prudent Precaution to prevent our Enemys being supply'd with Provisions from thence. Yet as you are a Bread Country, and the Inhabitants of this Colony have long, in a great measure, depended on you for the Article of Flour, and as our Laws to prevent any being exported from hence, an Extract of which I herewith send you, are so strict and so punctually executed, that there is not the least Danger of any being sent away from here.

I must, therefore, in behalf of the Colony of Rhode Island, ask the Favour of your Honour to permit Capt. Stephen Wanton, who hath long used the Flour Trade between Newport and Philadelphia, to continue his Trade, that We, instead of our Enemys may not suffer for want of Bread, and Assure your self all that arrives here shall be duly used only for the Inhabitants, and none be permitted to be Transported, but agreeable to the Laws which you have the Perusal of.

Your kind Interposition in this matter, in favour of this Colony, shall be gratefully acknowledged in their Behalf, by

Your Honour's
Most Obedient and
most Humble Servant,
STEP. HOPKINS.

His Honour Govr Morris.

P. S. The above Flour is for the use of the Forces now raising and to be raised for the Crown Point Expedition.

Directed.

To the Honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Cheif of the Province of Pensilvania.

Pr Capt. Stephen Wanton.

Indorsed—

Stephen Hopkins, 30th Septr, 1755.

Major Gen. Shirley to Gov. Hardy, 1755.

Camp at Oswego, Octo^r 4th, 1755.

Sir:

Yesterday I had the Honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 26th September. The instance you have given of your Attention to the public Service, in removing from New York to Albany before you could be well recover'd from the Fatigue of your Voyage, must have a very good Effect for expediting it.

I am much affraid it will be thought an extraordinary Expence to the Crown for his Majesty to be oblig'd to build Barracks for the Reception of the Troops of Colonel Dunbar's & the late Sir Peter Halket's Regiments at Albany & Schenectady this Winter, when perhaps he may not have Occasion for Barracks there again; But as it is absolutely necessary for the good of his Service in the Operation of the next year's Campaigne that those Troops should be quartered there this Winter, and your Excellency informs me in your Letter that you are apprehensive of great Inconveniencies in disposing of those Troops at Albany by hiring of Houses for them there, and you mention, that "you could wish you had my Instructions for the "constructing of Barracks there and at Schenectady, which you ap-"prehend may be done at any easy Rate; least your Assembly "should not care to be at such an Expense." I desire your Excellency would take the Care upon you of providing such Barracks at the two before mentioned places, as you shall judge proper for the Reception of the two afores^d Regim^ts which I believe at present don't exceed 1200 Men, but will, I hope, be recruited by the Spring to 1000 each, & that you would give Orders accordingly to have them built as soon as possible, that the Troops may not, upon their Arrival in your Government, be destitute of Quarters to receive them, and in case your Excellency can't induce the Assembly of New York to be at the Charge of building those Barracks, I will give you one or more Warrants upon the Deputy Paymaster for the Southern District for such Sums of money as shall be requisite to defray the Expence of building them, and your Excellency will be pleas'd to look upon this as my Instruction to you for that purpose.

I can't, however, but hope that the Assembly of New York will think it reasonable that the Province should be at the Charge. It was very much at the motion of their Gov^t that I determined to draw these Troops from the Southward this Year. The Province will in an especial manner have not only the Benefit of being covered by them this Winter, but of their Service at Oswego in the ensuing Spring, & the Inhabitants draw very large Sums of Money from the Residence of the Troops among them, as they will in general from the Expedition, in wch they are employ'd, and I have to add that the Province of the Massachusetts Bay thought it reasonable upon the

raising of the Regiment under my own Command to erect Barracks at the Charge of the Gov^{t}, for the Reception of upwards of 800 Troops.

As to Garrisoning Fort Edward or the Fort building at Lake George with any part of the Troops of these two Regiments this Winter, it would disappoint that part of the Service for which His Majesty principally destin'd them, and wch is of infinitely more Consequence to the publick than any Saving it could make by their being quarter'd in those Forts, so that I have thoughts of posting any of them there.

I have kept two Companies posted the whole Campaigne upon the Oneida Carrying place, and purpose to leave one there this Winter, butmust endeavour to prevent its giving Umbrage to the Oneida Indians who have express'd some uneasiness at the Building we have already there.

I shall place Garrisons in Fort Hunter & the Fort at Concjahora this Winter. They have had a Garrison of twenty-five men, and an Officer at each of them the whole Summer.

I approve much of having small Forts erected in every one of the Six Nations of Indians, as what will have a great tendency to conciliate them to the English, & to fix them in a dependence upon his Majesty, for this Reason I will send thirty men to the Onandaga Castle to build them one at their own Request to me, and shall propose the same thing to the Oneidas, & if they consent to it, will have a small one built upon their Carrying place, as I shall likewise think it right to do in the Country of the Tuscaroras, Cayugas & Sinekas, not that I am of Opinion these Forts will secure the Indian Country to his Majesty agst the French, nothing can effectually do that or cover the English Territories South-Eastward of this Lake, but holding Oswego: if that, wch is the Key of the Country of the six Nations, should be lost to the French, they will soon be masters of that whole Country, and draw all those Indians intirely into their Interest; and when that shall happen your Excellency may look upon all the intermediate Country between this Lake & the City of New York to be gone too.

With regard to the little Security & Cover, which the Fort now building by General Johnson at Lake George, will afford to the Country between Albany & Crown Point, and the necessity of his Forces proceeding as far at least as Tenonderoge this year. I have so fully express'd my Sentiments in my Letters to General Johnson, Copies of which I have transmitted to your Excellency, that I need say nothing further, and I can't but hope from the Acc^{ts} I have of Reinforcements daily pouring in upon him from New England, that the Troops under his Coumand are gone on.

The three points in which the General Welfare of his Majesty's Northern Colonies, & Consequently his Majesty's Service in North America, are at present most essentially interested, are the Removal of the French from their Incroachments in Nova Scotia,

from those upon the Great Lakes and Rivers in the Southern Country between Canada & the Mississippi, and from those at Crown Point & upon the Lake Iroquois, commonly called Lake Champlain, and therefore ought to be the great Objects of their present Attention. As to inferior Securities and Covers of small Portions of the Country, when the principal parts of the Service are compass'd, they will fall in of Course. The first of these points is happily effected; the second of them may be most effectually carry'd into Execution in the Course of the next year, with the united Strength of his Majesty's Regular Troops & the New Jersey Reg^t against all the Force, that the French will probably be able to draw together upon the great Lakes & Rivers, provided the Campaigne is begun early & the same Spirit is then exerted by the Colonies for the Reduction of the French Forts at Crown Point, &c. as hath been by those of New England & New York the last Summer, & is still continued by the former, and with respect to the third great point I can't but hope that if the Reduction of Crown Point should not be found practicable this Year, yet General Johnson may be able at least to make himself Master of the pass at Tenonderoge, which will put into our power to secure the Reduction of that Fortress early the next Summer, provided the Colonies act with the same Vigour then that those concern'd in it have hitherto done. But this, and the Success of his Majesty's Service in the other point, or even in proceeding to Montreal itself, if that should be judg'd expedient, will very much depend upon as general a Congress as may be, of Commiss^rs from the several Gov^ts this Winter, in order to the fixing upon a plan for the year ensuing, which, if some sudden adjustm^t of the American points in dispute between the two Crowns don't put an End to the present Commotions in North America, must be a most critical one, either for securing the Interests of the English Colonies, & promoting his Majesty's Service in North America against the French or losing Ground there, according to our Improvem^t or Neglect of the Opportunities it shall afford, and it is this Consideration, Sir, which hath induc'd me to lay my Sentim^ts before your Excellency is so explicit a manner.

I am, &c.

His Excellency Sir Charles Hardy, Kn^t.

Indorsed.

Copy Major General Shirley's Letter to Govr Hardy, dated Octo^r 4th, 1755.

Tobias Hendricks to R. Peters, 1755.

Fortt Pleasant,* Octr 20, 1755.

Sr:

I understand that the Govr and you with the Rest of the Gentlemen had been so good as to allow Arms and Amunition for the Defence of this Fort, and the ℙsons that has Joyned to it, which is upwards of one hundred. They are Verry diligent in making Every thing in Readyness, in Case of an attack, which, Sr, we do not know the Night nor hour, for by all accounts from the Back parts they are most Shocking. The ℙsons that is Joyned to this Fort is upon Occation fully Determined to go out by Turns to Serch the Woods. Sr, I therefore Request the feaveour of yr Honr, as we Greatly Confide in you, to Deliver the Arms and Ammunition to the Bearer, James McConnell, who is to Carrie them up to us. There is Verry few of the people here that has gott good Guns, and for Ammunition there is Verry little in those parts, and am, Sr, with Due Regard,

yr Honrs most obedt
and most Humble Servt,
TOBIAS HENDRICKS.

Directed.—To Richard Peters, Esqr., In Philada.
Indorsed.—Tobias Hendricks, 4 Novr, 1755.

Thomas Penn to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Sir,

Being yesterday at the Board of Trade, their Lordships informed me they had not received any letter from you since your arrival in Pennsylvania, which they said was such a neglect of their Board, as had not been shewn them by any other Governor, and that they expected an account from you, of your proceedings with the Assembly, and of the general concerns of the Province, this they desired I would inform you of, and desire you will for the future comply with their expectation, which I now do, and am,

Sir, Your very affectionate Friend,
THO. PENN.

London, October, 1755.

Robert Hunter Morris, Esquire.

Indorsed.

Mr. Penn, to write to ye Board of Trade, recc'd 22d Novr, 1755.

* The situation of this Fort I have not been able to ascertain—this is, I think, the first time the name has occurred—the full name is here given. *Mount* Pleasant was the name of a Fortification built by Col. Innes in or about 1754, at the mouth of Will's Creek, opposite to the New Store—perhaps Fort Cumberland. See Col. Rec. Vol. VI. p. 180.

Gov. Morris to Sir Thomas Robinson, 1755.

Pensilvania, Octr 27, 1755.

Sir,

I am sorry it has not been in my power to afford that assistance to his Majesty's measure upon this Continent, that might reasonably have been expected from the flurishing Province I have the Honour to preside over, but such has been and still is the obstinate temper of the Assembly, that all my endeavours to prevail on them to grant supplys to the Crown, or provide for the safety and defence of the Province, have had no other Effect than to draw from them Messages tending to alienate the affections of the people from his Majesty's Government, and filled with the grossest calumny and most insolent abuse of the Proprietors and myself, In which they have gone such lengths, that nothing but his Majesty's commands for the security of the Province, will induce me to have any further communication with them, as I am satisfied upon repeated Tryalls, that they have not the least intention to promote the publick service, but upon terms inconsistent with their own dependence. I cannot indeed accuse them of disafection to the Royal Family now upon the Throne, But they are certainly disaffected to Government itself, and consequently to his Majesty's office and authority, tho' not to his Person or family. I have in my several letters laid before you the particular parts of the Assembly's behavour, and the difficultys I have met with in the execution of the King's commands, and am now to inform you, That on the 16th Instant a party of French & Indians fell upon some of the remote settlements of this Province, which they distroyd, put thirteen of the inhabitants to death, and Carry'd off twelve Prisoners, and as they met with no resistance and are no strangers to the defenceless state of this Province, it is to be fear'd this is only the beginning of the Ravages they intend, and which it will be impossible for me to prevent, as I have neither men, money, arms, nor amunition at my disposal, am without a militia, and have an Assembly that are or Pretent to be Principled against defending themselves or their Country, and what makes it more likely, that the French will take advantage of our defenceless state, and lay wast this country, is, that without the aid of this Province, it will be very difficult, if not impracticable, to carry on another Expedition against the forts they have built upon the Ohio. I think it my duty to give you the earlyest intelligence of these matters, and am, Sr.

Indorsed,

Dft. to Sr Thomas Robinson, Octor 27th, 1755. Sent by the Myrtilla from New Castle. Copy.

Deposition Nicholas Powell, 1755.*

Oct. 27, 1755.

Kent County, Delaware, ss.

Nicholas Powell, of said County, aged Sixty-eight years or thereabouts, being Sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, Deposeth and Saith, That he hath been well acquainted with a Tract of Land called and known by the Name of Tappahannah, now belonging to Waitman Sipple, Senior, these Forty-six years past, during which time it has been Possessed by Persons Claiming under our Proprietor, and paid their taxes in this County; and that He this Deponent, Purchased the said Land about Eighteen Years ago of a Certain Joseph Butler, for which he had a Deed of Conveyance Acknowledged & Recorded according to Law in the said County. Which said Land this Deponent saith he two Years after sold to the Aforesaid Waitman Sipple, who has been owner of it ever since, and further saith not.

his
NICHOLAS ⋈ POWELL.
mark.

Oct. 27, 1755.

Then the above Deposition was taken before me, the Subscriber, one of his Magisty's Justices of the Peace for Kent County, on Delaware.

RICH. WELLS.

Indorsed,

Powel's Affidavit about Sipple's Complaint. Copy was delivered with the Petition to Gov. Sharpe, at New York.

Gov. Morris to Sir Thomas Robinson, 1755.

Pensilvania, Octr 28, 1755.

Sir:

I had the Honor to write you two days ago, that the Indians had attackd and distroyd some of the Frontier settlements of this Province, and I have this day Received intelligence that a great Number of French and Indians were on this side the Allegany mountain, moving towards this Province, and that a party of them had since Crossd the River Susquehannah, and distroyd some Settlements about one Hundred miles from Philada, the particulars of wch I have sent to Mr. Penn. Upon this Intelligence, I have summoned the Assembly to meet me on ye 3d of November, and hope the Danger the

* See petition of Waitman Sipple,—Colon. Records. Vol. VI., p. 417.

people are in will induce them to do something for their safety & defence.

Should these French & Indians be Scalping Partys, they will distroy a few families and retire. But if there should be any number of regular Troops with the Indians, they will make a very great progress in a country circumstanced as this is, without a militia or any thing necessary for its defence.

I have only to assure you that I shall do every thing in my power to oppose the enemy, and to protect the people committed to my charge, and shall inform you from time to time of what is done.

and am Sr.

Indorsed.

Dft to Sr Thomas Robinson—That the French & Indians were at the Alleghany Hills, moving towards Pensilva; that a Party Had pasd Susquea & distroyed some Settlemts. That I had Calld the Assembly. Octor 28, 1755.

Dft to Sr Thos. Robinson, Octor 28, 1755, by a Ship to Liverpool. Copy.

John Harris to R. Peters, 1755.

Paxton, Octr 28th, 1755.

Sir:

I recd your Letter & shall observe the Contents. Here is malincolly news wch I have wrote to his honour our Governor, if there was Encouragement for 1000 or 1500 men, to meet the Enemy & build a fort some place up Sasquehanah, I Imagine that a Number of men will go at their own Expence to assist.

I am, Sir,

your most Humble Servt,

JOHN HARRIS.

P. S. I shall endeavour to keep out a few Mohawks thats here as Spies, & the belt of Wampum promised to send out some, but it was our River Indians & some Scouts from the French army, attacked us at Mr. Pens Creek. Yrs,

J. H.

Directed.

To Richd Peters, Esqr., In Philada.

Indorsed.

John Harris, 20th 8ber, 1755.

* See his long letter to Gov. M., in Colon. Records, Vol. VI. pp. 645, 654--5.

Copy of Act of Rhode Island appointing Commissioners to meet Gen. Shirley, 1755.

AN ACT appointing and empowering Commissioners in Behalf of this Colony, to meet with his Excellency Major General Shirley, Commander in Chief of all his Majesty's Forces in North America, and the Commissioners that may be appointed by the other Northern Colonies.

Whereas, the Multitude of Encroachments made by the French on the undoubted Dominions of his Britanick Majesty in North America, hath necessitated the Colonies to rise in their own Defence, and endeavour to remove such dangerous Neighbours to a greater Distance: And, as the disunited State of the English Colonies is such as renders it impracticable for them to exert their natural Strength against the common Enemy in any other manner than that of a general Meeting by Representatives, to consult and provide means for their common Defence & Safety: Wherefore, to contribute towards so salutary a Measure, so far as the abilities of this Colony will admit.

Be it enacted by this General Assembly, and by the Authority thereof, it is enacted that his Honor the Governor, and Daniel Updike, Esqr., be and they are hereby chosen and appointed Commissioners for and in Behalf of this Colony, with full Power & Authority to appear and represent the same at any meeting of the Commissioners of the other British Northern Colonies, with his Excellency above named, and with them to concert proper Measures for quartering, subsisting, furloughing, or discharging the provincial Troops now in the Field; to concert proper Measures that the Campaign may be rendered successful this Year or in the next Spring; to contrive and establish proper Ways and Means for supplying the present or any future provincial Armies with Provisions and other Necessaries; to agree upon and settle the Proportion and Quota of this and the other Colonies concerned in the present Expedition against Crown Point, for and towards the said Expedition, and to agree upon a joint Application unto his Majesty for the obtaining such assistance to his Colonies as may enable them to repel their common Enemy, and put in Execution such Measures as will effectually establish the peace and Tranquility of his Majestys good Subjects in North America. And in Case no such general Convention of the Representatives of the Governments in North America shall be had, that the Commissioners above named shall have and hereby is granted them equal Authority to meet and act at any Convention of the Governments immediately concerned in the Expedition against Crown Point that shall be agreed upon, and that as fully and effectualy to all Intents and purposes as are herein before expressed. And his Honor, the Governor, is requested to cause the

Needful Commissions to be made out in Season, and to transmit a Copy of this Act to all the Governments in North America.

Colony of Rhode Island, & so forth.

What is written above and upon the other side, contains a true Copy of an Act of the General Assembly of said Colony, made & pass'd at their Session in South Kingston, the last Wednesday, 29th, of October, 1755.

Witness.

THO. WARD, Secretary.

Indorsed.

Act of Rhode Island Colony, appointing Commiss^rs to meet Major General Shirley.

Wm. Parsons to R. Peters, 1755.

Stonykiln, Oct. the 31st, 1755.

Sir,

When I wrote last to you, I informed you that I was engaged in laying out the Road from Easton to Reading. When I was got as far as Reading, it was hard to deny myself the pleasure of seeing the Plantation, where I got the last Fryday afternoon, and passed that Day and Saturday and Sunday, with great satisfaction; but on Monday, I heard a Rumour of Thomas Mockee's Engagement with some strange Indians. I had heard before of some murder having been committed by them on the West Side of Susquahanah, near Shamokin. Monday Evning I received an Express from Mr. Weiser, informing me that he had summoned the people to go and oppose the Indians, and desired me to meet a large Company near the Foot of the Mountain in the Shamoking Road, while he went with about 300 to Pextang. When I came to the Company at the Foot of the Mountain, about 100 in all, I found one half of them without any Powder or Lead. However, I advised them to go forward, and them that had no ammunition I advised to take Axes, in order to make a breast work of Trees for their Security at Night; and the next day I advised they should go forward to the Upper Gap of Swarotawro, and there to make another Breast work of Trees, and to stay there two or three Days, in order to oppose the Enemy if they should attempt to come that way; which if they had done, I am inclined to think what has since happened would have been prevented. I promised them to go to Tulpehockon, & provide Powder and Lead, and a sufficient Quantity of Bread, to be sent immediately after them. But they went no farther than to the Top of the Mountain, and there those that had amunition, spent most of it in shooting up into the Air, and then returned back again, firing all the way, to the great Terror of all the Inhabitants thereabout, and this was the Case

with almost all the others, being about 500 in different parts of the Neighbourhood; there was another Company who came from the lower part of Bern Township, as far as Mr. Freame's Manor. So that when I came to Tulpehockon, I found the People there than they were near the Mountain. For when they saw me come alone, thay were overjoyed, having heard that we were all destroyed, and that the Enemy were just at their Backs, ready to destroy them. At Tulpehocken, there was no lead to be had; all that could be got from Reading, was taken to Pextang. I therefore sent an express over to Lancaster to Mr. Shippen, that Ev'ning, desiring him to send me some Lead. He sent me 71lb, being all that the Towns people were willing to part with, as they were themselves under great apprehensions. I also procured 20lb of Powder, papered up in ¼lbs, and ordered out a quantity of Bread near the Mountains, but when I returned home, I learnt that my People had given over the pursuit, in the manner above mentioned. I have since distributed a good deal of the powder & Lead, and the Bread I ordered to the poor People who are removing from their Settlem^ts on the other side of the Mountain, from whence the People have been removing all this Week. It is impossible to describe the Confusion and distress of those unhappy people. Our Roads are continually full of Travellers. Those on the other side of the Men, Women & Children, most of them barefoot, have been obliged to cross those terrible Mountains with what little they could bring with them in so long a Journey thro' ways almost impassable, to get to the Inhabitants on this side. Whilst those who live on this side near the Mountain, are removing their Effects to Tulpehocken. Those at Tulpehockon are removing to Reading, and many at Reading are moving nigher to Philada., and some of them it is said quite to Philada. This is the present unhappy Situation of Pennsylvania. Yesterday afternoon I was informed that Adam Rees was come from over the Mountains, and reported that he had been at the House of Henry Hartman, who he saw lying dead, having his scalpt. I sent for him, and before 5 o'clock this morning he came to me, and told me that between 11 & 12 o'clock yesterday, being then at Home at his plantation on the West side of Swatawro, about 9 miles from my House, & about 5 miles from the nearest Settlem^t on this Side the Hills, he heard three Guns fired, towards Henry Hartman's plantation, which made him suspect that something more than Ordinary was the occasion of that firing. Whereupon, he took his Gun and went to Hartman's House, being about a quarter of a Mile from his own, where he found Hartman lying dead, with his face to the Ground, and all the Skin scalpt from his Head. He did not stay to examine in what manner he was killed, but made the best of his Way through the Woods to this Side the Mountains. He told me further, that he had made Oath before Adam Reed, Esquire, of the whole matter. This Day I set out with some of my Neighbours to go and view the place, and to see the Certainty of the Matter, and to assist in burying the

Dead Body. Mr. Reed had appointed the people about him to go with him for that purpose, & we intended to meet them at the place, by way of Shamokin Road. When got to the Top of the Mountain, we met with 7 or 8 men, who told us they had been about 2 or 3 miles further along the Road, and had discovered two dead men lying near the Road, about 2 or 300 yards from each other, and that both were scalpt; Whereupon, I advised to go to the place where these two men were, and with great difficulty we prevailed with the others to go back with us, being then 26 men strong; when we came to the place, I saw both the men lying dead, and all the Skin of their Heads were scalpt off, one of them we perceived had been shot thro' the Leg, we did not examine further, but got some Tools from a Settlem^t that was just by, and dug a Grave and buryed them both together in their Cloaths, just as we had found them, to prevent their being torn to pieces & devoured by wild Beasts. There 4 or 5 persons, Women and Children, yet missing; one of the dead men had been over on this Side the Mountain with his Family, and was returning with his Daughter to fetch some of their Effects that were left behind. She is missing for one. It is not for me to describe the Horror & Confusion of the People here, and of Country in General, you can best imagine that in your own Mind; but where will these Proceedings end? For myself, I do not know whether I shall stay where I am, or leave all that I have to be destroyed by those Barbarians, or to be plundered by wicked People amongst ourselves.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient humble Servant,

WM. PARSONS.

Richd Peters, Esqr.

Direction.

To Richard Peters, Esquire, Philadelphia.

Indorsed,

Wm. Parsons to Richd Peters, Esq., Dated Octr ye 31st, Rec^d Novr ye 2^d, 1755. Read in Council, 2d Nov.

* See letter from Wm. P. to Rev. Mr. Coat, same date, and another to Adam Reed, Nov. 1, in Colon. Rec. Vol VI. p. 668.

Gov. Dinwiddie to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Williamsburg, Oct. 31st, 1755.

Sir,

Your Fav°. of the 8th by Doct. Hill, I received Yesterday. Am heartily sorry for the unmannerly Treatment of your House of Assembly to you, & that it still subsists very much to the Prejudice of the necessary & just Expedition, to the Prejudice of His Majesty, & the Protection & Welfare of these Colonies.

The Retreat of Col. Dunbar,* his marching all the Regulars from our Frontiers, even the three Independent Companies sent by his Majesty's direct orders to my Command, has diffused so much Discontent and uneasiness among all ranks of People here, that I have great Difficulty to keep them in moderate Temper.

The Consequence of his Retreat, occasioned a general Desertion among the Provincial Troops; the Enemy thereon have invaded our Frontiers, murdered & taken off about eighty of our frontier Settlers, burning & destroying their Houses, &c. The Surprize & Fear in our People was not more on the first Acc'ts of the Defeat of General Braddock, than at this Step of Colonel Dunbar's, & in Duty I have been obliged to represent it to the Ministry. Col. Dunbar's long stay with you, prevented I conceive, the Service Gen'l Shirley proposed, or had in View, by ordering him directly to Albany, where he must now remain in Winter Quarters.

I congratulate you on the Success of Gen. Johnson, which undoubtedly is of essential Service; if the Enemy had succeeded, what was to have hindered them from cutting off Genl Shirley, taking Albany, & proceeding wherever they thought proper. We should therefore be thankful for that brave Officer's Success. I want much to hear what Genl Johnson has further done, if he marched to Crown Point, or entrenched himself for this Winter, to be ready for Action in the Spring; as to Genl Shirley, I presume he has laid aside any Thoughts of Action till the Spring. I received a Letter from him proposing a Meeting of Commissioners from each Government, at New York, next Month. I immediately called the Assembly, & pressed them strongly to appoint two from their House, but they immediately made a Resolve against it, saying they had raised all the Money they could to Pay and Maintain the Forces in the Service of this Dominion. As you go there, I think a full Representation of the Backwardness of the two Proprietary Governments, should be laid before the Ministry. I have repeatedly mentioned the Misfortunes attending the Expedition, or their bad conduct.

I wish Capt. Orme a good Passage Home, & I doubt not he will

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. VI., pp. 602, 603.

represent Things in their proper Colours. I wait with Impatience to hear from Home, with orders what is to be done next year.

I wish you Health & Happiness, & am most Sincerely,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble Servant,

ROBT. DINWIDDIE.

Gov. Morris.

Indorsed,

Gov. Dinwiddie, 31 8ber, 1755.

Gov. Morris to Mr. Hamilton, 1755.*

Dr. Sir:

The last Express to Lancaster, went away at such a time that it was not possible for me to write by him, and I directed Mr. Peters, to write and make my apology, but he neglected it.

We have been some time without hearing from the back settlement, which gives us hopes that the Indians have stoped their Progress for the present, but the little resistance they have met with in their late ravages will certainly encourage them and others to make us frequent visits.

The assembly are Just in the same temper they were in their answer to my first message, they talk of redressing the Injury's the Indians have received, and of regaining the friendship of those that are now employed against them, and have sent me a Bill for raising fifty thousand pounds in four years, by a tax of sixpence upon the pound.

The People as usual are much with them, and grow clamorous as I have been told, and have some reason to believe that the leaders mean to carry things great lengths.

On Saturday Last as I was setting off to Joyn you at Lancaster, Scaroriedy and another Indian came to town with Mr. Wieser, and Disiring to speak to me in publick, I sent for the assembly and Corporation, and Scaroiady having mentioned the motions of the French and their Indians, and the attachment of himself & the other Indians upon Susquahana, to ye English. He proceeded to demand of the government what we intended to do upon the present occasion, whether we would fight or not, and whether they our friendly Indians were to expect any assistance from us or take care of themselves. That this was a dangerous time and therefore insisted upon an explicit & ready answer, that they might govern themselves

* Then "at Lancaster, in November."

accordingly. Upon this I desired the speaker and members to return to their House & enable me to make a proper answer to the application, and on Monday sent them a strong message upon the Head, which has produced no good effect as they only referr me to the Bill they had sent me, which they insist on my passing.

I have order'd a quantity of Powder and lead to be sent to Mr. Shippen at Lancaster, which you will please to order to be distributed in what manner you please.

Indorsed.—To Mr. Hamilton, when he was at Lancaster in Novr. 1755.

Sundry Persons at York, to Gov. Morris, 1755.

May it please your Honour,

We receiv'd sundrie Acc^ts lately, all concuring in this, that a numerous Body of Indians & some French are in this Province, which has put the Inhabitants here in the greatest Confusion, the principal of whom have met sundrie Times, & on examination find that many of us have neither Arms nor Ammunition.

Herewith we send a Copy of an Express just arived from John Harris's Ferry, by Way of James Anderson, with Intelligence that the Indians are encamp'd up Susquehannah within a Day or two's March of that Place and 'tis probable, before this comes to Hand, Part of these back Counties may be destroyed.

We believe there are Men enough willing to bear Arms & go out against the Enemy, were they supplied with Arms, Ammunition & a reasonable Allowance for their Time, but without this, at least Arms and Ammunition, we fear little to purpose can be done.

If some Measures, are not speedily fallen upon, we must either sit at home till we are butcher'd without Mercy or Resistance, run away, or go out a confused Multitude destitute of Arms & Ammunition & without Discipline or proper Officers, or any way fixed on to be supplied with Provisions.

In short we know not what to do, & have not much Time to deliberate.

As the Company who go, from this Town & the Parts adjacent, to Morrow, to the Assistance of the Inhabitants on our Frontiers, will take almost all our Arms & Ammunition with them, We humbly pray your Honour to order us some Arms & Ammunition, otherwise we must desert our Habitations.

We have sent the Bearer Express with this Letter, and also a Petition to the Assembly, which our People were signing, when the Express came to Hand.

We humbly hope your Honour will excuse this Freedom, which our Distress has obliged us to use, and beg leave to subscribe ourselves.

Honoured Sir,
your most obedient
Humble Servt.

GEO. STEVENSON.
HUR. UPDEGRAEF.
THOS. ANNOR.
JAMES SMITH.
JOHN ADLUM.

Endorsed.—Letter from the Magistrates of York County, to the Govr.

York Saturday 11 o'clock, P. M.
1st Novr. 1755.

GEORGE STEVENSON TO R. PETERS, 1755.

Dr Sir,

By the Expresses which, I suppose, more than Daily come to yr Hand from the Frontier Parts of this Province, you can conceive the Confusion, Horror & Distress, with which every Breast is filled; All possible Attempts have been made here to Stockade this Town, but in Vain, on Receipt of the Governors Summon I dispatch'd the Sub Sheriff to David McConaughy's, knowing that Mr. Hamilton was over the Hills, I doubt he will not go down, his Family & Neighbours being in such Consternation.

I'm inform'd John & Jas. Wright do not go, We have sent down a Petition by the Bearer sign'd in about a quarter of an Hour, whilst we were yet signing it We reced the Express from Harris's, a Copy of which we have sent to the Governor, together with a Letter, five of us have made bold to write to him on this Important Subject I beg you will use your Influence with the Governor and Mr. Allen, to whom I made free to write two days ago, I am so fatigued with the People, & 'tis now so late that I must conclude.

Dr Sr,
yr most obliged
& obedient Servt,
GEO. STEVENSON.

York, 12 O'Clock, Saturday Night, 1st Nov., 1755.
Mr. Peters.

Indorsed.
George Stevenson, 1st Novr, 1755.

Gov. Morris to the Neighbouring Governors, 1755.

Sir,

By the enclosed Intelligence you will see that the Indians have pass'd the Sasquehana and laid waste the Settlements, at a place calld Tulpehockin, which was one of the best peopled and most fruitful parts of this Province, and lyes within about seventy miles of this city. The People, who are under no kind of Discipline, and mostly without arms, are flying before them and leaving the Country to their mercy. By the manner of ye attacks these savages have made upon the different parts of this Province, there is reason to believe their main body is more murdrous than Scalping partys generally are, and as they destroy Cattle & Horses, and burn & destroy every thing before them, it seems to be their intention to disable us from furnishing Provisions & ye expected Assistance in another Campaign against Fort Duquesne, for which this Province was certainly most conveniently situated and best circumstanced, but will itself stand in need of the aid of the other Colonys, if these cruel ravages are suffered to go on, which I am much affraid the pacifick disposition of my Assembly will suffer them to do, as they have been now sitting a fortnight without doing any thing to the purpose.

Indorsed.

Draught Lre to ye Neighbouring Gov^rs^, Nov^r^, 1755.

Petition from Lancaster, 1755.

May it please Yo^r^ Honour:

The Enclosed letter from M^r^. Allison, with the annexed copy, we have just now reced by Express, by which yor Hon^r^ will be able to judge of the Melancholy & Distress'd Situation of the Inhabitants of this & the other Frontier County's of this Province. There are not one half of the People of this County who have Arms, and there is not Amunition by any means sufficient for those that have. We beg Yo^r^ Honours assistance in furnishing those that are willing to do their Utmost for the defence of their Family's & Bleeding Country, in such manner as time and opportunity will admit; And as we are thus destitute of all manner of Warlike Stores, and in a great degree seperate and disunited by means of our distant abodes, and for want of some plan of operation amongst us; Tho' many are well disposed, Unless some Supplies are Speedily sent to oppose the progress of the Enemy, We, in Lancaster, as well as many more must shortly Evacuate our places of abode. We are with the Utmost respect,

Yo^r^ Hon^rs^ most Ob^t^ Hble Servants,

Robert Thompson, George Ross,
John Mather, Junr., Joseph Shippen, Junr.

Lanc^r^, 1st Nov^r^, 1755, 6 o'Clock, P. M.

P. S. You have also enclosed a copy of an Affidavit, the original whereof was sent by John Harris to Mr. Franklin.

Directed.

To The Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania.

By Express on His Majesty's Service.

Indorsed.

Robert Thompson, John Mather, junr., &c., 1st Novemr, 1755: 6 o'Clock, P. M.

To the Governour.

Recd Sunday, 2 Novemr, 1755.*

Read in Council, 2d Novr.

Gov. Morris to Gov. Sharpe, 1755.

Sunday evening, Nov. 2d.

Govr Sharpe.

I had the favour of yours this morning, and was in hopes you would have been here this day, but imagine the Badness of the weather prevented you from moving so soon or as fast as you intended.

I am sorry the Affairs of my Province are such that I cannot have the pleasure of attending you to New York, which I fully intended to have done, but the enclosed intelligence will shew you what circumstances we are in, and my Assembly meets to-morrow upon the occasion, what they will do time must discover; but if they have any regard for the Lives and safety of their Constituents, they will certainly strengthen the Hands of the Government, so as to enable it to repell these cruel invasions. I expect you will honour me with your Company at my House, and I have a bed for Mr. Redout.

The sherrif of this city & county waits on you to conduct you.

Indorsed.

Dft to Govr Sharpe, sent by the Sheriff. Novr 2d, 1755.

Copy—John Armstrong to Gov. 1755.

Carlisle, 2d Novemr, 1755.

Honoured Sir:

Yesterday Monaghatootha and Andrew Montour came to John Harris's Ferry from Shamokin, and being examined before divers p'sons assembled there for Intelligence, said:

That about thirteen days ago the Delawares sent for Andrew Montour & Monacatootha to come up to them at the Great Island, who

*See Vol. VI., p. 670.

immediately set out with three other Indians, and there found six Delawares and four Shawnese. The Delawares informed them that a Hatchet was sent them by the French to kill Game with, and to be made use of against their Brothers, the English, if they proved Saucy or troublesome to them; and farther said, they had received the Hatchet and were determined to Use it against the English while any of them lived to lift it up. The two Delawares who brought the Hatchet further said:

That about twenty one days ago a large number of the Indians and about 100 French, supposed to make about 1500 men, set out from Fort DuCain in order to destroy as many of the Inhabitants Eastward of the Alegheny hills as they could; and that Eight days before the main Body left the Fort, Scouting parties were sent out before them, some of whom Andrew says must have Killed the Men in Harris's Company; that we should be prepared to receive them every hour, for that they were certainly nigh Us, and would not return this Winter. Montour said He thought Lancaster would scarcely defend itself by next Christmas.

They both gave it as their Opinion, that a Fort should immediately be Errected at Shamokin; they said our own Neglect had brought all this upon us; That the Delawares being asked why they took up the Hatchet said, the English had for some time called them Frenchmen, & yet fell upon no mesures to defend themselves, wherefore they thought it not safe to stick by Us, and would now Publickly declare themselves Frenchmen.

That Scaronady Enquiring from Geo. Croghan, was answered by Mr. Buchannan, he was Fortifyd at Aghwich, whereupon the Indian desired Mr. Buchannan to give him speedy Notice to remove, or he would certainly be killed. They say Carlisle is Severely threatened, and Adviseth that the Women & Children be removed.

At four o'clock this afternoon, by Express from Conegochege, we are informed that yesterday about 100 Indians were seen in the great Cove, among whom was Shinggas, the Delaware King; that immediately after the discovery, as many as had notice fled, and looking back from an high Hill, they Beheld their Houses on Fire, heard several Guns fired, and the last Scricks of their dying Neighbours. 'Tis said the Enemy divided, and one part moved toward the Canallowais. Mr. Hamilton was here with 60 Men from York County when the Express came, and is to march Early to-morrow to the upper part of the County. We have sent out Expresses Every where & intend to Collect the forces of this lower part, expecting the Enemy every moment at Shareman's Valley, if not nearer hand. I'm of opinion, that no other means than a Chain of Block Houses* along or near the south side of the Killatinny Mountains, from Sasquehannah to the Temporary Line, can Secure the Lives and properties even of the old Inhabitants of this County, the new Settlements be-

* This advice probably led to the erection of the different forts hereafter referred to. See Col. Records, Vol. VI. p. 669.

ing all fled except Shareman's Valley, whom (if God do not preserve) we fear will Suffer very soon.

I am your Honour's
disconsolate Humble Servant
JOHN ARMSTRONG.

N. B—It now appears there are but Eight of Harris's Company killed and drowned.

Indorsed.—Copy John Armstrong's Lre. 2d November, 1755.*

Conrad Weiser to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Heidleberg, Novr the 2d,
at Night, 1755.

Honoured Sir:

I am going out Early next morning with a Company of men, how many I can't tell as yet, to bring away the few & distressed familys on the north side of Kittidany hills yet alive, (If there is yet alive such;) they Crie aloud for assistance, and I shall give as my opinion to-morrow in public meeting of the township Heidleberg, and Tulpehockin, that they few that are alive and remaining there (the most part is Come away) shall be forwarned to Come to the South side of the hills, and we will Convey them to this side. If I don't go over the hills myself, I will see the men so far as the hills, and give such advise as I am able to do; there can be no force used, we are Continually alarmed, and last night I received the account of And^w Montour. Bell, Scarioady, and others, wanting me to Come up with my men to John Harris's ferry, and to Consult with them, I sent an account for my not Coming with my Son Samy, who set off by break of day this morning, with an Invidation to the Indians to Come down to my House for Consultation. The same Message I had ventured to send by George Gabriel I send by Samy, a Copy of which No. the very same I sent by George is here inclosed; when I received the letter from Harris's ferry, signed by several, among whom was Mr. J. Galbreath and Mr. J^as Ellison, it was late in the night, I dispatch a Messenger after George, and he Came back this Morning; here inclosed, as said before, is his Errand; I hope to see my Son back again to-morrow night with Intelligence, that is one reason that I Can't go over the hills; my son Peter came up this Evening from Reading at the head of about fiften men in order to accompany me over the hills, I shall let him go with the rest; had we but good regulation, with God's help we Cou'd stand at our places of abode, but If the people fail, (which I am afeard they will, because some goes, some wont, some mocks, some pleads religion, and a great number of Cowards,) I shall think of myn and my familys preservation and

* See Colon. Rec. Vol. VI. p. 669.

quit my place, If I can get none to Stand by me to defend my own house. But I hope you will excuse this Hury, I have no Clerk now, and had no rest these several days nor nights hardly.

I am, Hon^d Sir,

your obedient,

CONRAD WEISER.

Gov. Morris to Gov. of Virginia, 1755.

Sir:

On ye 29th of the last month I wrote You a Letter under Cover to the Governor of Maryland, to be dispatched by Express to Williamsburg, that a large Body of French and Indians, to the number, as was said, of 1500, were seen to pass the Allegheny Mountains, moving towards this Province, and that a Party of Indians had murdered and carried away 25 of our Inhabitants, settled on a Creek that runs into Sasquehannah, about 25 miles to the north of the great Road leading from this City to Patowmac.

I likewise dispatched an Express to Col. Washington to inform him of this, & that it was said by the Indians, they intended to fall on Virginia as well as this Province.

Andrew Montour & ye Belt of Wampum, who are now at Harris's Ferry, positively says that a Fort is to be begun in 10 days at Shamokin, an important Pass, situate at the Forks of ye two main Branches of Sasquehannah, ab^t 35 or 40 miles from Harris's Ferry.

Yesterday & to-day I have repeated Expresses to inform me that they had murdered several of the Inhabitants on the East Side of Sasquehannah, & that the whole Body of French and Indians, consisting of 1500, were only ye 31st of last month actually encamped on the Sasquehannah at George Gabriel's, which is within 30 miles of Harris's Ferry, & that they may expect an attack there in 3 days at farthest.

Their Scheme seems, by their motion, to be to take Possession of the Sasquehannah, which We shall not be able to pass without great difficulty, and they will be in that case perfectly at Liberty to destroy all the rich Country beyond that, where there are many thousands of Familys seated, & what they may do afterwards Time must discover. The Inhabitants in general are in great Consternation, but being undisciplined, & mostly without arms, they can do very little good. By Letters of ye 29th & 30th of last month, am informed, that People of Aucquick & Juniata are cut off, and among others, George Croghan.*

Indorsed.—Dft. Govr Morris's Letter to Govr of Virginia, 2d Nov^r, 1755, 9 o'clock, P. M., read in Council 2d Nov^r.

* See Col. Rec. Vol VI. p. 667, 668.

James Burd, to Edward Shippen.

Shippensburg, 2d Novemr. 1755.

Dear & Hond. Sir:

"We are in great Confusion here at present, we have Receved Express last night that the Indians & French, are in a large Body in the Cove, a little way from William Maxwell Esqrs., & that they Immediately intend to fall down upon this County, we for these two days past have been working at our Fort, here & believe shall work this day, this Town is full of People, they being all moving in with their Famillys 5 or 6 Famillys in a house, we are in a great want of Arms & Ammunition, but with what we have are determined to give the Enemy as Warm a Reception as we Can, (there has) some of our People been taken Prissoner by this party, & have made there Escape from them and come into us this morning.

As our Fort goes on here with great Vigour and expect to be finished in 15 days, in which we intend to throw all the Women and Children, it would be greatly Encouraging could we have Reason to expect assistance from Philada, by private Donation of Sweevells, a few great guns, small arms & ammunition, we would send our own Wagons for them, & we dont doubt upon Proper application but somthing of this kind will be done for us from Philada.

We have 100 men working at Fort Morris, with heart & hand every day I am with Duty to Dady & Mammy, Love to Brors, Sister my dear Wife & the little Babys, &c.

Dear Sir,

Your most affectionate Son,

JAMES BURD.

Directed.—To Edw. Shippen, Senr Esq. Lancaster.

R. Peters, to Mr. Till at New Castle, 1755.

Sir:

The Governor orders me to send you the enclosed Information given by Andrew Montour, & the Indian called the Belt, who are friendly Indians & now at Harris's Ferry, and desires you will give immediate Notice thereof to Coll. Armstrong, and it is the Governors express orders that he immediately forms the several Companies under the Officers who were recommended by him at Newcastle, and he will take care to send down all the Commissions for him & his Officers, as soon as they are printed.

All the Intelligence laid before the assembly at Newcastle is confirmed.

Please to send copies into ye other Counties, & disperse them thro the County of Newcastle, yt all may be made acquainted wth it.

I am
Sir,
Your humble
Servant,
RICHARD PETERS.

P. S.—If ye Magistrates of Kent & Sussex, w^d send up their Recommendations of Officers, from ye Coll. to ye English, ye Govr. will likewise send their Commissions.*

Endorsed.—Copy of Letters from Mr. Peters to Mr. Till, for raising ye Newcastle Militia.

Philad^a,
2^d November, 1755.

BURGESSES OF WILMINGTON, TO GOV. MORRIS, 1755.

Wilmington, 2nd November. 1755.

May it Please Your Honour,

The Borrough of Wilmington being under apprehensions of Danger, from an Alarm Occasion'd by the Contents of the Enclosed Paper & other reports, From a Tender Regard to the Inhabitants. We the Burgheses, Beg Leave to Communicate the Same to Your Honour, as well to be Informed of the Truth of it as to have your Directions & orders, what Particular Measures You would have Taken for our Defence and Safety, and are with Submission your Assur^d Friends.

EDWARD DAWES.
GEORGE CROW.

To His Honour,
Robert H. Morris. Esqr.,

Endorsed.—Letter from the Burgeses of Wilmington to the Governor.

* Destruction of the Great Cove—See Colon. Rec. Vol. VI, p. 668-673.

Gov. Morris to Gen. Shirley, 1755.

Dear Sir:

Last night I despatched an express to you with sundry letters and papers, relating to the present circumstances of the Province and other matters, and I now send away another with the further Intelligence that I have received within this hour, by which you will see that the Enemy whose numbers as still uncertain, are got much nigher to us than they were being on the 31st of last month, Encamped near the Susquehannah, some few miles to the northward of the great road leading from this city to Carlisle, about one hundred and twenty miles from this place. Their scheme seems by their motion to be to take Possession of the Susquehannah, which we shall not be able to pass without great difficulty, and they will be in that case perfectly at Liberty to destroy all the rich country beyond that River, where there are many thousands of familys seated, what they may do afterwards time must discover. The Inhabitants in genl are in great consternation, but being undisciplined and mostly without arms, they can do very little good. The additional intelligence is enclosed for your further information. My assembly meets to-morrow, but by what I can learn nothing is to be expected from them. Governor Sharpe will be here to morrow Night, & I am extremely concern'd I can not go with Him to New York, I must beg you would give me your advice what is best for me to do, in Case my Assembly shall continue to act ye same part they have hitherto done.

I am, in great Hast Dr Sr,

Yr most obedient

& affectionate Friend,

ROBT. H. MORRIS.

Endorsed.—Letter to Genal Shirley, with ye Advices recd from ye Frontiers.

Phila, Novr ye 2d, 1755.*

8 o'clock P. M.

Gen. Armstrong to R. Peters, 1755.

Carlisle, Sunday Night, 2d Novembr, '55.

Dear Sir,

Inclos'd to Mr. Allen, by the last Post I sent you a letter from Harris's, but I believe forgot thro' that dais confusion to direct it.

You'l see our Melancholy Circumstances by the Governors letter, & my Opinion of the method of keeping the inhabitants in this County.

Which will require all possible dispatch—if we had immediate assurances of relief a great No. wou'd stay, and the inhabitants

* See Col. Rec. Vol. VI, p. 668.

shou'd be advertis'd not to drive off, nor waste their Beef, Cattle, &c. I have not so much as Sent off my wife fearing an Ill Precedent, but must do it now I believe, together with the Publick papers & your own.

There are no inhabitants on Juniata, nor on Tuscorora by this time, my Bro. W^m being just come in —— Montour & Monaghatootha are a going to the Governor, the former is greatly suspected of being an Enemy in his heart—tis hard to tell, you can compare what they say to the Gover^r with what I have wrote.

I have no Notion of a Large Army, but of great Danger from Scouting parties.

Perhaps David or M^r. Levers Cou'd find me a in some hand that won't Use them.

* * * * * *

Directed.

To Richard Peters, Esquire, Secretary of the Province, Philad^a.*

Indorsed.

John Armstrong, 2^d Nov^r, 1755.

Timothy Horsefield to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Bethlehem, Novr 2, 1755.

May it Please Your Honour,

S^r,

As the People in the parts adjacent are under frightful apprehensions of the French Indians coming Down amongst them, I think it my Duty to Inform you y^t this Evening two of the Brethren returned from a Journey to the Susquehanna, whome I have Examined on their Solemn Affirmation, being all the Authentick Acc^t I can come at which I herewith Inclose,

Your Honour's Very
Obedient Humble Servt,
TIMO. HORSFIELD.

Directed.

To The Honbl. Robt Hunter Morris, Esqr., Governor of Pensylvania.

Indorsed.

Timothy Horsfields letter to the Governor.
Novr 2^d, 1755.

* The rest of the letter is torn off, probably for the autograph. There is one of same date and purport to Govr. See Colon. Rec. Vol. VI., p. 676.

Examination of Moravians, 1755.

Bethlehem, Novr 2^d, 1755.

M^r. Christian Seidel and M^r. David Zeissberger, being examin'd on their Solemn Affirmation before me, Timothy Horsfield, One of his Maj^ts Justices of the Peace for the County of Northamton, at their return from their Journey to the Susquehanna, affirmed as follows:

Q. When came You to the Susquehanna?

A. The twentysixth of Octr last.

Q. What Places were You at there?

A. At Waioming, the Shawanos Town, and at Lechaweke, the Minnissing Town.

Q. What Stay did You make there?

A. Six days.

Q. What was your proper Business there?

A. Being invited by the Indians, We went there to preach the Gospel, which we did twice at Lechaweke.

Q. What Knowlege have you of the Disturbance which lately happened in those Parts?

A. All we know is what the Shawanos Chief, nam'd Sackshanos, told Us, vizt., That He and some other Chiefs of the Indians, living on the Susquehanna, were called down by the Shamokin Indians, and accordingly they went, and Saturday, the 25 of last month, as they sat in Consultation, there came 49 white People to them and told them the French Indians were very near on the other side of the River, the Indians advised them to stay on that side and not go over the River, but they would needs go over, and having crossd over about 6 miles below Shomokin, near George Gabriel's they were attacked by some Indians; and that He, the aforesaid Chief, with Others, and some of their Young men, went the next day over, and going down the River they came to the Place where the Engagement had been the day before, where they found 3 White men who had been kill'd, and a little farther on the River Side they found Another dead, not shot, but supposed to have been drownd in trying to Escape; at some distance farther they found a Suit of Womens Cloaths, with a pair of new Shoes, lying near the River, which they tho^t must have belongd to some One who endeavourd to escape by crossing the River. Then they followd the Track further into the Woods, where the said Chief espied a Sapling cut down, and near by a Grub twisted; then He called to the Company and said these marks betokend Something, and upon Search they found a Parcel of Leaves raked together, upon removing which they found a fresh Grave in which lay an Indian who had been shot, and well dressd, by the Hairs of his Head being pulld out excepting a Tufft on his Crown, they discoverd Him to be a French Mohawk Indian; they strippd and scalpd Him. They also found a Glove all bloody

lying by a Tree which had been very much shot, which they imagined to have belongd to Thomas McGee, an Indian Trader; Then they went to George Gabriels Plantation, where they saw Indian Tracks on the plowd Grounds, and that his Corn was burnt, but what was become of Him and his Family They knew not.

Q. What Situation did You find the Indians in?

A. They are in great Fear of the French Indians, and are also much concernd lest the white People should think that they had a Hand in the late Disturbance, vizt. the Indians at Wayoming. At Lechaweke they were intirely ignorant of the whole Affair, for as We came there They were all together at their Thanksgiving Harvest Feast. As far as We could observe they are all well affected toward the English. And the forementiond Chief fully intends to come here to Bethlehem on a Visit shortly.

Q. What do You know of the Disturbance said to have happen'd lately in the Neighbourhood of Gnadenhitten?

A. When We came to Gnadenhitten yesterday the first Instt, We found all in Peace and Quietness, but as We came to day thro' the Gap We found above a Hundred People in a great Fright, who told Us that George Custard was murtherd, We made answer that He was alive last night, and was seen and spoke with by two of Our People from Gnadenhitten, vizt. Shweigart and Presser, Presser being then in Company with Us. And further We know not.

Taken before me,

TIMO. HORSFIELD.

Indorsed.

Horsfields Letter To the Governor. Novr 2d, 177.
Examination of Seidel & Zeisberger.

Dedimus to James Hamilton to Fill Commissions, 1755.

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor & Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania, & Counties of Newcastle, Kent & Sussex, on Delaware.

To the Hono'ble James Hamilton, Esquire.

Whereas, I have received Intelligence that a large Body of French & Indians have entered this Province, and are said to be Encamped on the Susquehannah, below the Forks, and it is necessary that the Inhabitants of Lancaster County, who are now arming for their Defence, should be furnished with Military Commissions, in order to render their act legal, Reposing special trust & Confidence in your Loyalty & Prudence, I do hereby give & grant unto you, full power

* See examination of 2 others, Nov. 15th.

to fill up the Commissions herewith given you, with the names of such Persons as you shall think worthy of the trust, and fit to be employed upon the present occason, & the commissions so by you filled, I do hereby Declare to be to all intents and purposes, as good as if I had inserted the names of the persons to whom they are given before signing and sealing the said commissions.

Indorsed,

Draught of a Dedimus to Mr. Hamilton, to fill up Military Commissions in Lancaster County, Nov'r ye 3d, 1755, issued in Council, Nov'r, 1755.

Geo. Stevenson to R. Peters, 1755.

D^r S^r.

Herewith you have a Copy of Ben Chambers's Letter,* rece'd about an hour ago. We have formed a Counsil here of the Principal Inhabitants, who join with me in beging you to deliver the Petition & Copy of Letter herewith sent, to the Speaker of the Assembly, and pray them in our Names & behalf, for God's sake either to send us Arms, Ammunition & Blankets, and a Letter to encourage the People, & assure us of what we may expect, or else our Country will be deserted. The Bearer waits, I refer you to our Letter & other papers sent to the Governor. I am, D^r S^r, in the greatest Distress,

Y^rs most affectionately,

GEO. STEVENSON.

York, Monday, Nov. 3,

½ an hour past 11 A. M.

Directed.

To Richard Peters, Esq., Sec^ry of the Province of Pennsylvania.

Gov Morris to Conrad Weiser, 1755.

Sir,

The Express arrived from Reading last night with your dispatches, for which I make you my Acknowledgments, and Cannot, in Justice to the Zeal and Industry of the Magistrates of your County, omit expressing the Satisfaction I have in your Conduct.

I have Prevailed on Mr. Benzel, an Officer who has seen a good deal of Foreign Service, & raised near two hundred recruits for the

* See Col. Rec. Vol. VI., p. 675.

late General Braddock, in this Province and the Lower Counties, to go to your Assistance, and he will, I am Persuaded, take the highest Pleasure in being useful to you, both by his advice and Personal Service.

Continue to give me your Intelligence on every new Occasion, and thank for me your Brethren in the Commission, & every one else who stands up for the Defence of his Country. I am,

Sir, &c.

ROBT. H. MORRIS.

Philada. Novr 3^d, 1755.

Indorsed,

Copy to Conrad Weiser, sent by Mr. Benzel.

Adam Hoops to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Cannogogig, Nov. 3d, 1755.

Gentlemen,

I am sorry I have to trouble you with this Melancholy and disagreeable News, For on Saturday, I rec^d an Express from Peters Township, that the Inhabitants of the great Cove were all Murthered or taken Captive, & their Houses and Barns all in Flames, Some few fled, upon notice brought them by a certain Patrick Burns, a Captive, that made his Escape that very Morning before this sad Tragady was done. Upon information as afores^d, John Potter, Esq., and Self, sent Expresses through our Neighbourhood, which induced many of them to Meet with us as afores^d, at John McDooles' Mill, where I with many others had the unhappy prospect to see the Smoke of two houses that was set on Fire by the Indians, vizt, Matthew Patton's and Meshech James's, where their Cattle was shot down, and horses standing bleeding, with Indian Arrows in them, but the Indians fled. The Reverend Mr. Steel, John Potter, Esq., and Several others with us, to the Number of about an hundred, went in Quest of the Indians, with all the Expedition Immaginable, but to no Success; these Indians have likewise taken two Women Captives, belonging to said Township. I very much Fear the Path Valley has undergone the same Fate. George Crohan was at Aurwick, where he had a Small Fort and about 35 Men, but whether he has been Molested or not, we cannot as yet say. We, to besure, are in as bad Circumstances as ever any poor Christians were ever in, For the Cries of Widowers, Widows, fatherless and Motherless Children, with many others for their Relations, are enough to Pierce the most hardest of hearts; Likewise it's a very Sorrowful specticle, to see those y^t Escaped with their lives not a Mouthful to Eat, or

Bed to lie on, or Cloths to Cover their Nakedness, or keep them warm, but all they had consumed into Ashes. These deplorable Circumstances, cries aloud for y^r Hon^rs most Wise Consideration, that y^r Hon^rs would take Cognizance of and Grant what shall seem most meet, for it is realy very Shocking, it must be, for the Husband to see the wife of h's Bosom, her head cut off, and the Children's blood drank like Water, by these Bloody & Cruel Savages, as We are Informed has been the Fate of many. Whilst I am writing, I had Intelligence by some that fled out of the Coves, that Chiefly the upper part of it was killed and taken; One Galloways Son escaped after he saw his Grand Mother shot down, and other relations taken Prisoners. Likewise, from some News I have likewise heard, I am apprehensive that Geor. Crohan is in distress, tho' just now Mr. Burd, with about 40 Men, left my house, and we intend to joyn him to Morrow, at McDowel's Mill, with all the force we can raise, in order to see w^t damages are done, and for his relief. As we have no Magazines at Present to Supply the Guards or Scouts, the whole Weight of their Maintenance lies Chiefly upon a few Persons. I Pray y^r Hon^r to excuse w^t Blund^rs are by reason of haste, &c.

I am, with due Regard, y^r

Hon^rs Most Ob^t hum^ble Servt to Com^d,

ADAM HOOPS.

Directed,

To His Hon^r Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr, Govr & Commander in Chief over Pensilva., New Castle, Kent and Sussex, These.

Indorsed,

Adam Hoops, 3 Nov., Rece'd 6th Nov^r, at night, 9 o'clock.

Edward Shippen to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Lancaster, 4th Nov^r, 1755.

Honoured Sir:

Inclosed is a Letter from Mr. Burd, and a Copy of a Letter from Coll^o Benjamin Chambers,* which confirm the melancholy accounts we have had of the Enemy. The People of this County are very willing to join in repelling the Invaders, but are without order, and many want arms. There are five Companys now in this Town from

* See Col. Rec. Vol. VI., p. 676.

the Lower end of this County and the upper end of Chester County, besides three Companys belonging to the Town.

I am

Your Honours most obed^t

Humble Servant,

EDWD. SHIPPEN.

Directed.

To The Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr,
Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania.

Indorsed.

Edward Shippen's Letter, directed to the Governour, Novr 4th, 1755.

Wm. Till to Rich'd Peters, 1755.

S^r:

I rece'd Yours Yesterday with the melancholy acco^t of the Situation of Our affairs, & the loss of our poor Inhabitants, as well as the Intentions of the worst of Enemys, speedily to invade the Province, &c., but I hope by the Blessing of God & the measures that are now taking, may frustrate their Cruel & wicked Scheems & prevent any further Barbarity. No sooner did I receive your Letter, than without loss of Time, I wrote to the Magistrates of Kent & Sussex, enclosing copys of Papers you sent me & desiring them to forward their Recomendations to His Hon^r, the Governor, for their Officers, that they might have their Comissions sent to them, & I have also sent to many parts of the County Copys of the same Papers wch gave acco^t of the Situation of Our Affairs, so that the whole by this Time is well known in every part of this Government, & never were there any People more willing to go against the Enemy in the Support & Defence of their Country than they appear to be. Seven or Eight Hundred people, I am informed, appeared in Arms yesterday near Christine Bridge, & will be ready to obey the directions of their Officers. I also wrote to Coll^o Armstrong. Enclosed is a Petition of Sundry Inhabitants of this Town in respect to the Officers to be appointed, there has been a Division some time among them, in respect to Mr. Finney & McWilliams, wch I cannot setle, they stand both indifferent to me, & I shall be pleased wth either His Honour Shall appoint, but it is certain the latter is the best Qualified, as he can give the word of Comand & Muster the Men, &c. I

know you have little Leisure, therefore I will take up no more of your time than that I am

Yo^r affection^te Hum^ble Servt,

WM. TILL.

New Castle, the 4th Nov^r, 1755.

May all Popish Scheems Perish.

Directed.

To Richard Peters, Esqr., Philad^a.

Indorsed.—Officers for Newcastle, 4 Nov^r, 1755.

James Alexander to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Dear Sir:

Your first Express Delivered your Letter to me, and your Letter to his Ex'y, our Governour, about one Ulrick, & I sent to Summon our Counsellers to meet at two, and while mett your 2^d Express came with further intelligence, upon which they were of opinion that as General Shirley & our Governour are both dayly Expected here, that one of the Expresses should go round by water, there being two vessels to Sail for Albany to-morrow morning, & to speak to every vessel coming down, and the rather for that both their horses are tired & it would be Difficult to get fresh horses here & by the way.

I can assure you that theres neither arms or ammunition here belonging to the Crown, and it was with great Difficulty that arms were got for the 830 men in the pay of this Province, a great part whereof were bought in & brought from Verginea, & the rest bought here and his Ex'y when he went to Albany carried with him 200 that he brought from England for the Indians, & bought here 300 more & carried them also with him for Gen'l Johnson's army. I am informed that about 500 may now be bought in this town in very few hands, and if your Assembly will Enable you & send an Express they may be had.

I am heartyly sorry to hear of the Loss of the Lives of so many of your people & the posssibility of the Ffrench & Indians fixeng themselves in your Province, at least of wintering in it, but it may be all for the better, *or whatever is is right.* It may open the Eyes of your Province and induce it to join in the Common Cause whereas with this Schock there was no Likelyhood of it.

Your brother is with me Since I begun this and is well.

The returning Express waiting, I must in haste Conclude.

Dear Sir,

Your most obedient

& most humble Servt,

JA. ALEXANDER.

New York. Novr 4th, 1755.

The inclosed came last night from Capt Spry at Phila.

Directed.

To the Honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr, Lieutenant Govr & Commander-in-Chief of Pennsylvania, &c., Philadelphia.

Indorsed.

James Alexander. Rec'd by James Scull, the Express. In Council 7 Nov^{r}.

George Stevenson to Rev. Mr. Smith.

Rev^{d}. D^{r} S^{r},

The grand Quære here now is, whether we shall stand or run? most are willing to stand, but have not Arms nor Ammunition, this is the Cry of the People.

I have sent repeated Petitions to the House, Letters to the Governor to M^{r}. Peters, & one to M^{r}. Allen, but no Answer; for my own Part, I am in the greatest Distress. The whole Country run to me, and I have neither Arms nor Ammunition to give them, nor can Credit nor Money buy these things; with the Assistance of the Justices, M^{r}. Lishy, & some principal Men on the Spot, I spirit up the People all I can. We have sent 53 Men to Harris's last Monday from this Town; such as have Arms stand ready, and We watch Night & Day; People from Cumberland are going thro' this Town hourly in Droves, and the Neighbouring Inhab^{ts} are flocking into this Town Defenceless as it is; for the Distress of the People Westward, refer you to M^{r}. Dougherty, the Bearer; Schools, I can neither think nor say ought about.

I beg a few Lines to tell me what you see & hear, & whether any Relief is to be speedily expected from our Rulers.

Perhaps I may not be here to receive your Letter, but be sure write, for if I fly it will not be to Quakers, I will go to Maryland. Excuse this Trouble. I must add that M^{r}. Barton heads a Comp^{y}, M^{r}. Bay another, &c., &c.

I am, D^{r} S^{r}, with great Esteem,

Y^{r} most obed^{t} H^{ble} Servt,

GEO. STEVENSON.

York, Wed. 5th Novr. 1755,
3 o'Clock, P. M.

The Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Smith.

Indorsed.—Geo. Stevenson.

B. Franklin to R. Peters, 1755.

Wednesday morn^g.

Sir,

The Bearers tell me that you have promis'd to furnish them with what Arms & Ammunition they have Occasion for, provided the Assembly will engage to pay for them. If the Governor judges it for the Publick Service to spare some of the few Arms at present to be got, to a Township so far within the Settlements, (as it may be, if the People march with them to the Frontiers,) I engage in behalf of the Assembly, to see them paid for. Please to send me a Bill of the Quantity and Amount.

I am, Sir,

Your most obed^t Servant,

B. FRANKLIN.

Directed.—To Rich^d. Peters, Esqr.

Indorsed—Ben Franklin, 4 Novr. 1755.

R. Peters to B. Franklin, 1755.

Sir,

Three of ye Inhabitants of Laycock Township brought me your Letter of this morning, & is answered.

The Governor orders me to tell you that whenever Arms and Ammunition are put into his hands, he will dispose of them in the best manner he can for the publick Service.

I am, Sir,

Your humb. Sev^t.

Wednesday morn^g, 5 Novr. 1755.

Directed.—To Benjn. Franklin, Esquire.

J. Pownall, Sec'y, to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Whitehall, Novr. 4th, 1755.

Sir,

The Post Master General having, in Obedience to His Majesty's Commands, provided Vessels for the carrying on a regular Monthly Correspondence with His Majesty's American Colonies, I am directed by the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations to acquaint you therewith, and that the first of these Vessels will be dispatched for the Continent on the 15th of this Month to go and return between Falmouth and New York, where the first Vessel is to remain

twenty Days; And as it is of great Importance to His Majesty's Service, that their Lordships should have frequent and certain Intelligence of the true State of all His Majesty's Colonies and Plantations in America, their Lordships desire, that you will not fail of acquainting them by the Return of every Pacquet with all publick Occurrences which may happen in the Province under your Government, and likewise transmit to their Lordships all such publick Papers as are required to be transmitted.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble Servant,
JOHN POWNALL, Secr'y.

Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr.
L^t. Govr. of Pennsylania.

Indorsed.—Secretary of Board of Trade. Establishment of Packet Boats.*

Gov. Morris to Gov. Sharpe, 1755.

Copy.

Sir:

I hope this will find you well, and either arrived at New York or nigh it.

Last Night an Express arrived with the Inclosed Intelligence from the Westward, soon after which my Assembly sent me a Message, a Copy of which attends you with their proposing to Inquire what Injustice had been done the Indians now Employed in Scalping the Inhabitants, and assuring me that they would Endeavour to regain their Friendship. Such Language at this time, and while the Province is under its present Circumstances, seems to me very Extraordinary, but is of a piece with the rest of their behaviour. Upon this Answer and Intelligence, I propose to set off for the back Countys to put things into some order, and do what I can for the safety and defence of the People, tho' very little is in my Power.

Herewith I send you some Letters that came under Cover to me from the Secretary of State, as also one from the Lords of Trade, and am in great haste,

ROB. H. MORRIS.

To Govr Sharpe.

Philadelphia, 6th Novem., 1755.

Indorsed.

Governor Morris's Lett^r to Governor Sharpe, 6th Novem^r, 1755.

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. VI., p. 684.

Gov. Morris to Gen'l Shirley, 1755.

Sir:

Herewith I have the Honour to send you several letters that Sr Thomas Robinson recomended to my care, and the further intelligence that I have received from the Westward, giving an acct of the distruction of some more of our inhabitants, upon which I sent another message to my Assembly, but have no reason to expect any aid from them, as they tell me, in answer to my first message, that they propose to regain the affections of the Indians now employd in slaughtering the people, and are entering into an Inquiry what Injustice has been done them. Such a conduct at this time, when hardly an hour passes without bringing some accounts of fresh murders, is to me shocking beyond paralell, and argues a very great Indifferrence as to the hapyness or misery of the people. In this situation of affairs, without men, money, arms or amunition at my disposal, I do not see how I can Protect the People or secure the Province from being laid wast, unless you will supply me wth Troops and money for that Purpose; the former I have already applyd for, and the latter I must now desire you will furnish me with. You will see by the inclosed letter from the Secretary of State that I am directed to apply to you upon all emergencys, and tho' the Expence of the Present service is properly chargeable to this government, yet as the Assembly, either from Principal or some other cause, will not provide for its security; it is very clear to me that the thing ought nevertheless to be done and the Province made to refund what the Crown shall advance upon the Present occasion. If this People and Province are not at this critieal Conjuncture defended by the Crown, I cannot see any thing that will hinder these savages, under the directions of the French that are with them from over runing and distroying this whole Province, which you are sensible will be a greater Injury to the Crown and nation of Britain, than the expence of a few thousand Pounds advanced for its Protection. I need not observe to you, sir, that numbers without discipline are of no use and only serve to increase confusion.

Had the Proprietarys of this Province any sum of money in Bank here I should most readily make use of it, or a part of it, upon the Present occasion. But their money is due in small sums from the people, and comes in but slowly at this time.

What sum the Present exigency may require is impossible for me to say, but If you think it necessary for the service of the nation to trust any money with me upon the present occasion, you may depend upon its being employed in the most frugal manner possible, and regular accounts given you from time to time in what manner it is laid out. I have some provisions left in my hands that were bought for Genl Braddock, which I propose to use upon the present occasion, as they remain in the back parts of the Province where

they will be wanted. I have directed some other parcells of those Provisions to be sold, that I might settle the accounts of the Carrolina bills sent me by the late Gen[l].

To Gen[l] Shirley.
Philad[a], 6th Nov[r], 1755.

Indorsed.

Df[t] Lett[r] to Gen[l] Shirley, dated 6th Novem[r], 1755.

Gov. Morris to Gen. Shirley, 1755.

Dear Sir :—

I heartily congratulate you on the Trust his Majesty has been pleased to repose in you upon the Present occasion, and hope you will soon recieve his Majestys Commission, appointing you to the Command of his troop upon this occasion, In which you know I wish you all imaginary success, and that by your means these Colonys may be secured forever against the designs of our ambitious Enemys, who have never recieved any check in America but from yourself. You will find, my D[r] Sir, great difficultys to strugle with as you will have to do with many men that are more intent upon shewing their own knowledge and abilities, than in promoting the Publick advantage. You already see things Properly where you are, and will doubtless do so every where else. Upon this occasion, I think you should fill up all the vacancys in the troops, and if there be any advancement that you think my nephew capable of, I hope you will have him in your mind.

I am directed by the Secretary of State to furnish you with Coppys of all my letters to the late General, which I shall do as soon as my time will permit, but under the present circumstances of the Province I have not a moments time to spare. I wish I could meet you at New York, but do not at present see any prospect of having it in my power.

I intended M[r]. Benzill should have attended you with this, but have been under the necessity of sending him into one of the back Countys to put things into some order, and as soon as he returns, which I expect will be in a short time, he will wait on you, and I think you will find him an active good officer.

I am, with great Esteem,
D[r] Sir,
Your most obed[t] Humb[e] Serv[t].

Philad[a], Nov[r] 6th, 1755.

Indorsed.

Dft of a Letter to Gen[l] Shirley, Nov[r] 6th, 1755.

Gov. Belcher to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Sir:

I have ℘ Expresses, your several Letters from New Castle & Phil[a] of Oct[r]. 29th, and the 1 & 2 Ins[t]; with the several Letters they Inclosed; giving an Account of the Approach of the French and Indians, towards your Province, and in their Way committing the most barbarous Outrages, in murdering and captivating the Inhabitants, as they come along; and all this without Resistance, surely your Assembly will no longer be deaf and silent, to the Shrieks & Cries of their Murdered Neighbours.

I have summond the Assembly of this Province, to meet me here on Wednesday next, the 12 Ins[t]; when I shall lay before them, what you have sent me, respecting the present Exigency of Affairs; but if Pensylvania who may readily raise twenty or thirty Thousand men, will do nothing for the Defence of their Country, or for saving the Lives of their Wives and Children, I am afraid the Assembly of this poor little Province, will hardly think it reasonable, to send their People out of the Province, in defence of their Neighbours, and so leave themselves to the Incursions and Depredations of the Enemy, in this Time of common Danger.

We have no Arms in this Province belonging to the Crown, and indeed but very few, and little Amunition, belonging to the Province, or to the Inhabitants, or I shoud readily have answ[d] your Request, on that Head.

General Shirley has under his Command, at Albany, Oswego, and Lake-George, eight or nine thousand men; that I shou'd think it wou'd be prudent for you, in this Time of distress, to make early and pressing Application to him, to send, for His Majesty[s] Service & Honour, and for the Safety of these Colonies, two or three Thousand of those Troops, till they shall be more wanted elsewhere.

I observe in yours of the 2[d] Curr[t]; that the French & Indians are making rapid marches, towards these Colonies, and I have therefore this day sent my Orders ℘ Express, to every Col[l]. in this Province, immediately to muster his Regiment, and to have them in the best Readiness, for marching & repelling the enemy if they shoud enter this Province; which, it is well known, is in a miserable defenceless State. I wish you, and your Province, the Favour and Protection of Almighty God. I am,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient

Humble Servant,

J. BELCHER.

Eliz[a] Town, (N. J.)
Nov[r]. 6, 1755.

L. Gov[r] Morris.

Edward Shippen to Gov. Morris.

Honoured Sir:

Lancaster, 6 of Novr. 1755.

I am to acquaint your Honour that there are about a Thousand men in arms gone up to John Harris's, within the ye two Days; and this morning Mr. Hamilton took horse to meet them There, according to his promise, as they insissted upon having his Company at the place of Rendezvous. But before the Army would move Mr. Hamilton & Mr. James Wright, were obliged to promise to bear their charge upon ye road, and to support them During their Stay abroad. I forwarded and assisted the Express who passed by here yesterday from Connecocheegue with the melancholly news of the murder of many families, and the burning of their houses; but I hope a Stop will soon be put to these Devilish practices, by the assemblies assistance with money for that purpose.

Yesterday I committed, by Mr. Hamiltons advice, one Michael Roussel, who calls himself a French deserter from Fort du Quessne, which he left last april, he produces two passes of which, the inclosed are copys; but becaus'e he obtained a pass from the Mayor to go to New York, and came up here, we did not think proper to suffer him to proceed any further until your Honours pleasure should be known herein. The fellow calls himself a weaver by trade, and tells us he lodges at David Deshlers in Philad^a, who informed him that if he came here he would be more likely to be employed than in New York, and inclosed is David Deshlers Letter to his bro^r in Law Philip La Fievre, in this County. Will you be pleased to let me know whether I shall release this Roussel or not. Mr. Hamilton directed that the Prison Keeper should not let him want provisions, &c.

I am your Honours,
most obed. Hum. Ser^t.
EDWD. SHIPPEN.

P. S.—My Son Jo, is gone Ensign to one of ye Burrough Companys.

To The Honble Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Govr.

Gov. Morris to Sir Charles Hardy, &c., 1755.

Philad^a. 6 Novem^r, 1755.

Sir:

I have the Honour to Inclose you some letters that were recommended to my Care, by the Secretary of State, wich with those from the Board of trade arrived here in a ship from London last night, she Brings no news but what you have by the man of war to Boston, from which there is the greatest reason in the world to imagine

that a war is unavoidable, our fleet having taken and sent into the several ports upward of two hundred French ships and Vessels.

Since my last I have received intelligence that the Indians have Cutt off some more of the Inhabitants, upon the western frontier, coppy of which I now send you as also of two messages I sent to the assembly, and their answer to the first, wherein you will observe that instead of Providing for the safety of the Province, and the defence of the inhabitants they are going into an Inquiry, what Injustice has been done to the Indians, and declare they intend to regain the affection of the People now Employed in slaughtering the inhabitants, and laying waste the Country, such a conduct may be consistant with their Principles for aught I know, but it certainly is not Consistant with the Duty they owe to the Crown or their constituents.

Having now no reason to Expect any aid from the Assembly, I propose to set out for the back countys, where things are in great Confusion, and numbers are gathering without order or Discipline, where I shall do everything in my power for the Defence of the Province, but having no militia Law nor any money at my disposal, I am fearfull all I can do will have but Little effect.

Papers inclosed in the above Letter.
Benja. Chamber's Intelligence.
Bastins - - - - - Ditto.
Magistrates of York Ditto.
The Governors two Messages to the Assembly.
The Assembly, Message to the Governor.

Indorsed.—Df^t^. Letter to Sr Charles Hardy.

Directed.—The same to Govr. Belcher, & same Intelligence as the within.

To Sr Charles Hardy.

Gov. Hopkins to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Providence, November 6th, 1755.

Sir,

The present Posture of Affairs in North America, the Advantages, Situation, and Strength of the Common Enemy, the distressed Condition of the Frontiers of most of the Colonies, and the disunited State of them all; the Tragical Event of some of our Attempts to remove our dangerous Neighbours further from us, and the Little Success attending the others hitherto; the very unseasonable Disputes subsisting between the Branches of the Legislature in Several of the Colonies, and the Backwardness of all to exert themselves in the Common Cause, are Circumstances of great Weight with all thinking

Men, at this remarkable Crisis of the Rivalship of the English and French, for the Empire of North America. Those Considerations have occasioned Major General Shirley, Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Forces in North America, to propose a Meeting of all the Colonies, by their Commissioners with him, some time the ensuing Winter; to consider of proper Methods for removing the aforesaid Difficulties, and of exerting their Natural and united Strength, for their Common Safety and Defence. The Colony of Rhode Island thinking this the most likely Means for attaining the Salutary Ends proposed, and being willing to contribute thereto, as far as is in their Power, have appointed Commissioners, on their Part, to meet with General Shirley, and Such as may be appointed in Behalf of the other British Colonies, at such Time and at such Place as shall be appointed for that Purpose. The same Measures, I hope, will be come into by all the other Colonies; for, unless some other Method could be hit upon equally conducive to the Common Interst, All Men must agree that this is absolutely necessary. A Copy* of the Act of our General Assembly for appointing and empowering Commissioners, I herewith enclose to you, and am,

Your Honor's Most Obedient
and Most Humble Servant,
STEP. HOPKINS.

The Hono'ble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr.

Indorsed.—Govr. Hopkins, 6 Nov. 1755.

Adam Hoops to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Canegogig, Novr. the 6, 1755.

May it please your Honour,

I have Sent in Closed, Is 2 qualifications of which is Patrick Burns, who is the Bearer, and a tameyhak which was found Sticking in the brest of one David McClelan. The people of the path valley is all Gethered Unto a Small forth, and the Last account was Safe. The great Cove and Kennalaways is all Burned to Ashes, and about 50 persons killed or taken, there is Numbers of the inhabitants of this County have mouved there families, Sum to York County, and Sum to Maryland; Hans Hamilton, Esqr. is now at John McDowel's mill with upwards of 200 Men and about 200 from this County, in all about four hundred men, and to-morrow we entends To go in to the Cove and to the path Valley, in order To Bring what Cattle and horses that the Indians Hath Left a live; we are informed by a Dolleway Indian, which Lives a munghts us, on the Same day The Murder was

* See page 442.

Cummitted, he Seen four hundred Indians in the Cove, and we have Sum Reason to Belive the are a bout there yet; the people of Sheer Man's Crick and Juneate, is all Cum a way and Left there houses, and there is now about 30 miles Of this County lead weast, and I am afraid there will Be Soon more.

I am your Hon^rs
most Humb^le Servt,
ADM. HOOPS.

P. S.—(Wrote on ye outside of ye Cover.) I just now have receiv'd ye Account of one George McSwane, who was taken Captive about 14 Days ago, & has made his Escape, & has brought two Scalps & a Tomhawk with Him.

Indorsed.—Adam Hoops' Letter, Novr. ye 6th, 1755.

Gov. Morris to Rich'd Hockley, 1755.

Sir,

Whereas, I have received Repeated intelligence That the French & Indians are come into the Settled parts of this Province, and are dayly Slaughtering the inhabitants and laying waste the country. Upon the first of this intelligence I summoned the Assembly, And represented to them the defenceless state of this Province, and the cruel ravages the Enemies were making, to which they have returned me for answer, that they will Endeavour to regain the Affections of the Indians now employ'd against us; And propose, at this time, to Enquire into the reasons why those Indians have gone from our Allyance and enter'd into that of the French, But say nothing in their Answer of making any Provision for opposing the Enemy or providing for the defence and safety of the Province.

And whereas, numbers of People are upon the present Occasion gathering themselves together in the Back countys, and the Magistrates and officers there have frequently represented to me that there is great confusion and disorder among the people so Assembled, and great want of arms and ammunition. Upon these matters the Council have unanimously given it me as their Opinion and Advice that, as well from the Assembly's message, as from their known temper and disposition, the government had not the least reason to expect any aid from them towards the defence of the Country, and that it is absolutely necessary for the common safety, that I should as soon as possible, Provide a quantity of Arms and Ammunition for the use of the people that Voluntarily offer themselves in defence of the Country; and that I should, to prevent confusion and Encourage the people upon the present occasion, without delay Proceed into

the Back countys and take upon me the immediate Command of such men as are willing to enter into the present service. Now, Sir, tho' I am very willing and desirous to proceed immediately to the relief of the back inhabitants, and am with the Council in opinion that my Presence there is absolutely necessary to prevent confusion and to encourage the people to stand in their own defence, Yet having no money to provide the necessary Arms & Ammunition, and having in vain attempted to promote a subscription, I am laid under the necessity of at last tho' unwillingly, Applying to you as the Proprietary's receiver Genl, to supply me with one thousand pounds of their money, to be employ'd upon the present Emergency in defence of the Province, and to secure it from the ravages of the enemy. This money I hope will be repaid by the Publick whenever the afairs of the Province are settled in a proper manner; but if that should not be done, I make no doubt the Proprietarys upon proper Representations of it to the Government at Home, will procure payment there.

I must desire the money may be immediately supply'd and put into the hand of M^r. Richard Peters.

I am, Sir.

To M^r. Richard Hockley.*

Philad^a., 7 Novr. 1755.

If any body is Joyn'd in the Commission with you, this Letter is to them as well as you.

R. H. MORRIS.

Indorsed.—Draught Letter to M^r. Richard Hockley, Proprietary Receiver General.

Richard Hockley to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Hon^d Sir:

I have rece'd your letter of this day, pressing me very much to supply your Honour with one thousand pounds of the Proprietary's Money at this critical juncture, towards the defence of this Province, and make not the least doubt, were they sensible of our unfortunate scituation, an application of that sort to me would be unnecessary.

Permit me, Sir, to tell You that I have not at present two hundred pounds in the house, and though at this season of the year pretty large Sums were rece'd from the Country people in general, yet for two years past, have fallen very short in their usual payments, and the remittances made on their acc^ts for twelve months past, has been inconsiderable to what might have been expected.

Indeed, had I the Sum you request, I have not power as I appre-

* Proprietary Receiver General.

hend to dispose of it without special orders from them for that purpose, having been repeatedly, and very lately order'd to make remittances to Messrs Hyam & Son, as soon as any money came into my hands without delay, thus, Sir, you see how I am circumstanced; it gives me real concern that it is not in my power to assist you at this Important and critical time, when you are endeavouring to render all the service in your power to this unhappy Country. I am most respectfully,

Honoured Sir,

Your obliged and most

Obedient Humble Servant,

RICHD. HOCKLEY.

Philada, Novr 7th, 1755.

Direction.—To The Honble Robert H. Morris, Esqr.

Indorsed.—Novr 7th, 1755, Richd Hockley. That he has no money.

Holt and Kollock to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Sir:

We Have Sent Mr. Secretary Peters a List of Militia officers for the Eight Companys of Foot That are Partly raised, and are Compleating, in the Several Districts of the Subdivisions of the Hundreds of Sussex County; and we Trust That they are so Skilfully Chosen, That when Approved of and Commissionated By your Honour, There will Be a Mutual Concord and Harmony Subsisting among the Officers and Their respective Companys. On the 10th Instant There is to be a General Meeting of the whole Body, Near the Centre of the County, About 14 Miles from Lewes, at wch Time and Place we Intend to be Present, to Countenance and Encourage our Fellow Subjects of This Small Community, to the utmost of our Power.

We Crave Leave to Humbly Salute your Honour, and Do most ardently wish, That all your Honour's Measures, Labours, and Services, to Promote the Publick Good, Welfare and Safety of Both your Governments, May be accompanied with the Blessing of That Omnipotent and Gracious Being on whose Divine Favour and Protection it is (Indubitably) the Duty of Every Society Principaly to rely and Depend. And Now, Pray Allow us to Subscribe,

Sir,

Your Honour's

Most obedient,

Humble Servant.

RD. HOLT,

JACOB KOLLOCK.

Lewes, November the 7th, 1755.

Indorsed.—Novr 7th, 1755, Holt's Letter to Govr Morris.

Gov. Belcher to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Sir:

My last was the 6 Inst.* I am now to own Your Honour's Favour of same date, which came to my Hands p' Express on the 8th with further Accounts of the Approach of the Enemy to the Frontiers of Pensylvania, &ca., as also your Honour's Message to your Assembly of the 5 Inst, and their Answer, which to me seems full of Chichanery and Evasion.

I am sorry for the unhappy Situation your Honour is in, without Men, Money, Or Arms, to do any thing in defence of His Majesty's Honour & Interest, and of the Safety of the poor People under your Care; as things cannot hold in this Way, but with the utmost Hazard of the King's losing a fine Province, I think it high Time that the Governour and Council should address the King, to take the Governmt into His own Hand; & if no other Way, to be done by an Act of the British Parliament; & I should think it the wisest Measure the Proprietors cou'd go into, to join in such an Application, for it's very plain they are not able to defend their Province, & really, Sir, the Present Constitution seems to me to stand upon a very farraginous System.

Inclosed I send Your Honour Copy of an Affidavit I rec'd last Night from Mr. Secr'y Read, by which you will find the little Province of New Jersey is alive, alert and exerting, & by the Accounts I have receiv'd from the Frontiers, if the Enemy enter this Province, they may happen to meet with a warm Reception.

I think, by this Affidavit, the Moravians are a perfidious Crew, & if this Account shou'd further be confirmed to me, I shall order that all the Arms & Ammunition, with their publick Papers, be immediately seized, & to be kept in safe Custody till my further Direction; and I believe your Honour will think it prudent & Reasonable so to act with the Moravians in your Government at Bethlehem and elsewhere.

I am, Sir,
Your Honour's
Most Obedient
humble Servt,

J. BELCHER.

Elizs Town, (N. Y.) Novr 10, 1755.

Directed.—L. Govr Morris.

Indorsed.—Novr 10th 1755, Govr Belcher.

* See p. 471.

Wm. Logan to Rich'd Peters, 1755.

Stenton, 11 m^{o}. ye 10, 1755.

Respected Fr^{d}:

I just now recvd the Inclosed from Durham by a Messenger sent on Purpose, and send it for thy Perusal. The Person that Writes it is one in Company with Capt. Flower, who have leased *Durham Works* for 5 years. Baxter, the person mentioned in the Letter, has been a Collier for Sometime at Durham, and Suppose may be displeased with those Gentlemen on Acco^{t} of their not Employing him, and therefore inclinable to give some Uneasiness; Be that as it will, As the Durham Lines are not Settled, or cannot be found on that Side where they are Said now to be Surveying, Owing to my not being able to get the Return from Edward Suell, who Surveyed it. And as I took out a Warr^{t} Sometime Since for Some Vacant Land adjoing Durham, (not Yet Surveyed) and thou promised me also I should also have another for those 300 Acres yet due to my Father's Estate on a former right. I must on these Considerations, and to prevent Confusion in the Survey of Durham Lands, request thee to write a few Lines to John Watson, to prevent his proceedings on those Surveys, or till at least Durham Line can be ascertained.

I Still Continue lame & unable to move about, otherwise Should gladly come to town. Am pleased to hear Conrad Weiser is in town, here some measures Will be fallen On to accommodate Matters with ye Indians, as And^{w}. Montour & Scarrowhady are also with Conrad. It is a Critical time with them, and this Seems the Only Opp^{y}, & I think a favourable One, to lay Some foundation for Preserving our Ancient Friendship with them, Hope the Govern^{r} Will not leave Philad^{ia}, as I hear he intends, Until Something of this Sort is done and the Assembly adjourned.

A few Lines p^{r} Return of the Bearer to John Watson, who is now at or near Durham making Surveys, which I Shall Send up to him immediately, Will Oblige the Durham Owners, &

Thy Assured Friend,

WILL'M LOGAN.

P. S. If any Persons Should apply for Warr^{ts} for Lands adjoin^{g} Durham, as the Letter mentions, please to defer grant^{g} them until Durham Line is run, which I hope will be Soon.

Directed.

To Richard Peters, Esqr., In Philadelphia.

Indorsed..

W^{m}. Logan, 10 Nov^{r}, 1755.

Gov. Morris to Mr. Samuel Robinson, 1755.

At the Request of the People of Hanover Township, *in your neighbourhood*, I have orderd one hundred weight of Gun Powder and two hundred weight of Lead, to be delivered to you, which you will carry to the fort at your house, and distribute among the Inhabitants in as equal a manner as may be, and recomend it to them to be careful of it. I have no arms or I should willingly supply those that want, and are willing to use 'em in defence of themselves and their country.

ROBT. H. MORRIS.

Philad^a, Novr 11th, 1755.

Indorsed.

Govr Morris to Saml Robinson, of Hanover towns^p, Lanc^tr County, Novr 11th, 1755.

Timothy Horsfield to Gov. Morris, 1755.

May it please your Honour.

S^r:

Since my last* of the 2^d Inst., I have examined two of the Brethren who lately Returnd from Shomokin, and were there when the murther was lately commited near George Gabriels, which I now Inclose.

As far as I can learn, the People who were lately much frigtned in these parts are again pretty much composd, and I cant hear of any Mischief being done, nor of any French or Indians being seen any where near us.

Two of the Brethren, which you will please to observe are mentioned in the Examination I now send, are gone to Wyoming, if I can learn any Thing at Their Return about these troublesome Affairs worth comunicating, I shall take care speedily to do it.

My not sending Your Honour this Examination before now, was occasion'd by my being Indisposed, and did not hear for several days of the Persons Return home.

I am with all Due Respect,
Your Honours Very Obed^t
Humble Servt,
TIMO. HORSFIELD.

Bethlehem, Novr 11, 1755.

Directed.

To the Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Governour of Pensilvania.

Indorsed.

Timothy Horsfield, 11 Nov^r, 1755.

* See it on page 458.

Genl. W. Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Albany, Novr 11th, 1755.

Dear Sir,

At the same time that I please myself with the hope of your being arriv'd at New York, I am concern'd at the thoughts of my not being there at the appointed time to meet you: But I shall dispatch the Business wch necessarily keeps me here in as short a time as I possibly can, and I flatter myself with the thoughts of having the satisfaction of waiting upon you at New York, in a few Days.

I am in great haste, and with the most perfect truth and Esteem,

Dr Sir,

Your Honour's most faithfull

Humble Servant,

W. SHIRLEY.

Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr.

Indorsed.

General Shirley, 11 Nov^r, 1755.

Copy Orders Gov. Belcher to Col. Johnston, 1755.

By his Excellency JONATHAN BELCHER, Esqr., Capt. General and Governour in chief in & over his Majesty^s Province of Nova Cæsarea or New Jersey, and Territories thereon depending in America, Chancellor and Vice Admiral in the same.

{ Locus Sigilli. }

To the Honble Andrew Johnston, Esqr., Colonel of the Regiment of Militia in the County of Middlesex, in the Province aforesaid; or to the Commanding Officer of the said Regiment for the time being.

Sir,

Since I sent You my Orders for a speedy Muster of Your Regiment, I have recievd repeated Accounts of the Approach of the Savage French & Indians to the Borders of Pennsylvania & to those of this Province, committing the most cruel & Barbarous Outrages on His Majesty's good Subjects in Slaughter, Blood & Fire, wherever they come.

These are therefore to command You in His Majesty's Name to have Your Regiment in the best Readiness to march to the Borders of this Province or that of Pennsylvania, upon the most sudden Notice of Distress by the Enemy for the Aid & Relief of His Majesty^s Subjects, & I shall not doubt of the good Courage & Spirit of Yourself, the Officers & Men of your Regiment, to proceed where it shall

be necessary, & I woud have you publish this my Order at the Head of Your Regiment on their Muster.

Given under my hand and Seal at Arms, at the Borough of Elizabeth, this 12 day of Nov^r, in the twenty ninth Year of His Majesty's Reign, Annoq : Domini, 1755.

J. B.

Copy.

Indorsed—
Govr Belcher's Orders to the Collonels, 12 Nov^r, 1755.

Gov. Dinwiddie to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Williamsburg, Novr. 12th, 1755.

Sir,

Your two Letters of the 29th* ult^o, & the 2^d† Curr^t, came both to hand Yesterday, the last by Express. I am heartily sorry for the bad News you give me of the Enemy's advancement to Susquehanna, of their cruel Murders, &c., & of their intention to build a Fort on that River, which News I received some few days before I had your Letter, by one from Mr. Harris to Col. Washington. I hope this News will raise the Spirits of your Assembly, to strengthen your Hands for the Defence of your Country, invaded by a cruel & merciless Enemy.

I immediately on receipt of your Letter, called the Council, and they were deeply affected with the dismal News, & join me in Concern that we are not in condition to supply you with Arms, our Magazine was quite exhausted by the Arms supplied N. York & the Jerseys, & if I had not procured a supply of 400 from Admiral Boscawen, we should not have been able to arm the Recruits now raising. If you want one hundred Barrells of Powder, I can supply you, on your engaging to replace the same in six Months Time.

Mr. Harris wrote the Intention of these Banditti to attack this Dominion; we have raised about 400 Recruits, & I have ordered four hundred of the Militia to join them near to Fort Cumberland, to protect our Frontiers on that side, & four Companies of Rangers in the County of Augusta, where they have come with flying Parties, & murdered many of our People, burnt their Houses, & carried many off Prisoners.

From this true detail of our Situation, you may easily perceive how unable I am to give you any Assistance; and I doubt not you will join with me, that all these Calamities are greatly owing to Col. Dunbar's precipitant March from our Frontiers, not leaving one Regular to protect us.

* See it Col. Rec. Vol. VI. p. 651. † See page 454 of Archives.

I doubt not your Assembly, (if not infatuated with a lethargick supineness,) will now, in this time of so iminent danger, give you such supplies as this extraordinary Emergency requires, & if possible, to form a proper Militia for Protection of the Colony, with proper Laws for conducting them.

Our Assembly have formed a Military Law, similar to that of His Majesty's Regulars, but they began to be fractious, & entering into Cabals very inconsistent with their Duty at this Period of Time, when surrounded with Enemies. I therefore thought it necessary for His Majesty's Service, & the good of this dominion to dissolve them, & have issued Writs for the Election of a new House of Burgesses, which I hope will answer my expectations.

I beg you will give me Notice of any further Attempts of the Enemy, & the operations you may propose for defeating their Designs, & I am really concerned that it's not in my Power to give you any Assistance at this Time. It gives me much uneasiness & surprize, to see an handful of Men come into the British Dominions, & commit the most horrid cruelties, when I consider the number of our People; if they could be brought to a strict union among themselves for the protection of the Whole, but I fear this will never be done without the Intervention of the British Parliament, which I sincerely wish may be soon effected. I am with very great Regard & Respect,

Sir,

Your most obed't h'ble Servant,

ROBT. DINWIDDIE.

P. S. I wish I could have accompanied you to N. York, but the affairs of this Governm^t at present will not admit of my absence.

Governor Morris.

Indorsed,

Nov. 12th, 1755, Gov'r Dinwiddie.

George Croghan to James Hamilton, 1755.

Shippensbourg, Nov. 12th, 1755.

Honoured S^r^,

Permitt me att this Critical Time, to give you ye folowing Information of ye Designs of ye Enemy, itt was my duty to have Wrote to ye Present Governor, butt as he has nott thought proper to Desire me to give him any accounts of Indian Affairs, since ye Defate of Gineral Braddock, I did nott Now how his honour wold take it from me, or what Creadett he wold give to such an Account, as I have nott the Lest acquaintance of his honour, But I flater my self y^r^ honour will at Lest peruse ye folowing accounts which I had from

one of ye Six Nations, who I Blive is yett a Stidey friend if there be one of ye Nation, and make such use of itt as you shall Judge proper, tho' I must Request ye favor y^r honour will nott make itt publick from whome you had this Inteligance, so that neither of ye Interpreters may have itt in their power to tell ye Indians, from whome ye Accounts came.

I am, y^r honours most

humble & obedient

Servant,

GEO. CROGHAN.

1st. The Six Nations, Dalaways, Shannas, Wandotts & Twatwees, has had a Grand Council, in which itt was Determined that ye four Latter tribes should Ingage ye frúntiers of Verginia, Merreyland & Pensylvania, this Winter, and Drive ye Inhabitance over ye South Mountain, ye Six Nations to stand Netuer till Spring to this Councel, ye Mohocks and one other Tribe was no way Privey, nor New any thing about.

2^d. That ye Six Nations, while they stand Netuer, are to make all ye intrest they can with ye Southerd Indians, to draw them to their Intrest, and setel them on ye Ohio, as they have allready settled some of ye uper Cherikees on Kentouckey, a Creek near ye Lower Shanna town, this you may depend on for truth.

3dly. All ye Indian Tribes over ye Leaks, are to asist the French to ye Nourd against Ginrel Shirley and Ginrel Johnston.

4^thly. The same Man informs me that there has been butt 8 Indians come from Ohio to Suskehanna this fall to Councel, that those 8 & ye Wayandots that was Down att Councel this fall, asisted by ye Suskehanna Indians, Don all ye Merder that was Don on Suskehanna, which I am realy Certain is ye Truth.

Sir,

From ye Misfortunes I have had in Tread, which oblidges me to keep at a Greatt distance, I have itt nott in my power to forword Intelegance so soon as I could wish, however, if itt be thought worth Notice, I will aquaint the Goverment with any thing I can find outt that will Tend to ye hurt of my King & Country, for certainly ye Indians are only amuseing the Goverment, while they are privey, if not asisting to ye Merders done.

I have butt a Stockcade fortt att Aughick, and have about 40 men with me there, butt how long I shall be able to keep itt, I realy can't tell. I am, yo'r honours,

as Before,

G. C.

Indorsed,

Geo. Croghan to Mr. Hamilton, Shippensburg, Nov. 12th, 1755.

Directed,

To James Hamilton, Esq., Philadelphia.

Representation of Citizens to the Assembly, 1755.

A Representation to the General Assembly of the Province of Pennsylvania, by some of the Principal Inhabitants of the City of Philadelphia, in the said Province.

Gentlemen,

At a Time when a bold and barbarous Enemy has advanced within about a hundred miles of our Metropolis, carrying Murder and Desolation along with them; and when we see the Country already stained with the Blood of many of its Inhabitants, and upwards of a Thousand Families, who lately enjoyed Peace & Comfort in their own Habitations, now dispersed over the Province, many of them in the most miserable and starving Condition, exposed to all the Hardships & Severity of the Season; we say, in such a Situation, we should think ourselves greatly wanting in regard for our own personal Safety, as well as in Compassion for our bleeding and suffering Fellow-subjects, if we did not thus publickly join our names to the number of those who are requesting you to pass a Law in Order to put the Province in a Posture of Defence, & put a Stop to those Savage Outrages, which must otherwise soon prove our Ruin.

We hope we shall always be enabled to preserve that Respect to you, which we would willingly pay to those who are the faithful Representatives of the Freemen of this Province. But, on the present Occasion, you will forgive us, Gentlemen, if we assume characters something higher than that of humble *Suitors*, praying for the Defence of our Lives and Properties, as a matter of Grace or Favour on your Side. You will permit us to make a positive and immediate Demand of it, as a matter of perfect & unalienable Right on our own Parts, both by the Laws of God & Man. And to this we are induced by the following Considerations.

1. The Approach of winter brings the dreadful Prospect of the continual Increase of the Inroads of those preying Savages upon our Inhabitants, unless a proper Force is immediately provided to protect and defend them.

2. The proper and natural Force of every Country is its *Militia*, without which we know of no Government that ever could subsist itself, for it is highly unreasonable to think that the Burden of Defence should fall upon a few Individuals when the Design of Government is to obtain general Security, by a general Union of the Force of Individuals.

3. Consequently, we conceive it a Subversion of the very End of Government to deny that legal Protection to the Governed, for obtaining of which Government was originally instituted.

4. In our own particular case, altho' Men could be found willing to risk their Lives for the sake of the Public, and altho' they could be subjected to necessary Order and Discipline, without the aid or Encouragement of Law (neither of which we conceive possible) yet it would neither be adviseable for the sake of such Men themselves nor yet for the sake of public Liberty, to keep up an Armed Force in the Province, without the Sanction and Authority of Law, especially as it is so much in your Power to give such a Sanction and Authority.

5. Unless the Defence of the Province and of our Indian Allies is made an Act of the whole Legislature, and vigorously gone into, the Indians now in Town have publickly declared for themselves and their Friends who yet remain in our Interest, that they can no longer repose any Faith in us, but must shift for their own Safety, & leave us to ourselves as a People void of Spirit or Conduct.

6. We are of Opinion that no Sums of Money, however great, will answer the Purposes of Defence, without such a Law as we desire. We cannot, therefore, think that it shews a proper Regard for the Lives of the People of this Province at such a Time to propose Sums of Money in the Room of such a necessary Law; and to propose raising these Sums too in a Manner that must occasion unavoidable Disputes & Delays, when there are so many unexceptionable Ways & Means, agreeable to which the People in general are extremely ready to pay any proportion of their Property, for the Preservation of the Remainder.

Upon the whole, Gentlemen, we must be permitted to repeat our Demand that you will immediately frame and offer a Law for the Defence of the Province, in such a manner as the present Exigency requires. The Time does not admit of many Hands to be put to this Representation. But if Numbers are necessary, we trust that we shall neither want a sufficient number of Hands nor Hearts to second and support us till we finally obtain so just and reasonable a Demand.*

Novr 12th, 1755.

Indorsed.

Representation of Citizens to the Assembly, 12th Nov., 1755.

* See also a remonstrance to the Assembly from the Mayor, Ald'n. & Council of Philad'a, Col. Rec. Vol. VI., p. 734, & letter of Gov. to them, in p. 710. See also votes of Assembly, 7 Vol. IV., p. 519.

This paper is not signed, being probably a Copy. It is printed in "Votes of Ass.," Vol. IV., p. 502, where it is stated that it was signed by Wm. Plumstead, Mayor, & 183 others. See Col. Rec. Vol. VI., p. 729.

Copy of an Address of some of the Quakers to the Ass'y, 1755.

To the Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met. The Address of some of the People called Quakers, in the said Province, on Behalf of Themselves and Others. The Consideration of the Measures which have lately been pursued and are now Proposed having been weightily Impressed on Our Minds, We apprehend that we should fall short of Our Duty to you, to Ourselves, and to Our Brethren in Religious fellowship, If We did not in this Manner Inform you, That altho' We shall at all Times Heartily, and Freely Contribute according to Our Circumstances, either by the Payments of Taxes or in such other Manner as may be Judged necessary towards the Exigencies of Government, and sincerely Desire that due Care may be taken and proper Funds provided for Raising Money to cultivate Our Friendship with Our Indian Neighbors and to support Such of Our Fellow subjects Who are or may be in Distress, And for such other like Benevolent purposes, Yet as the raising sums of Money & putting them into the Hands of Committees who may Apply them to Purposes inconsistent with the Peaceable Testimony, We profess and have born to the World, appears to Us in its Consequences to be Destructive of Our Religious Liberties. We apprehend many among Us will be under the necessity of suffering rather than Consenting Thereto by the payment of a Tax for such Purposes, And thus the Fundamental Part of Our Constitution may be Essentially affected, and that Free enjoyment of Liberty of Conscience, For the sake of which our Forefathers left there Native Country and Settled this, Then a Wilderness by Degrees be violated.

We sincerely Assure you We have no Temporal Motives for Thus Addressing you, and could We have preserved Peace in Our own Minds and with Each other We should have Declined it, being unwilling to give You any unnecessary Trouble and Deeply Sensible of your Difficulty in Discharging the Trust committed to you irreproachably in these Perilous times which hath Engaged our Fervent Desires that the immediate Instruction of Supreame Wisdom may Influence your Minds, and that being preserved in a steady attention thereto, you may be Enabled to secure Peace and Tranquility to yourselves and those you Represent by pursuing Measures Consistent with Our Peaceable Principles, and then We Trust We may Continue humbly to confide in the Protection of that Almighty power whose Providence has heretofore been as Walls and Bulwarks round about us.

Anthony Morris, jr., Thomas Brown,
William Moode, Thos. Lightfoot,
Israel Pemberton, John Pemberton,

Mord. Yarnall,
Joshua Fisher,
Samuel Samson,
Isaac Greenleaf,
John Smith,
Anthony Benezet,
Anthony Morris,
Samuel Powell,
John Churchman,
William Brown,
Isaac Jeans,
Danl. Stanton,
Edward Cathrell,
John Reynell.

Indorsed.

Address of the People called Quakers, To the Representatives, &c., of the Province of Pennsylvania, Novem^r, 1755.

Copy of Petition to Gov. Belcher, 1755.

To his Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esqr., Captain General, Governor, and Commander in Chief, in and over his Majesties Province of New Jersey, and Territories thereon depending in America, Chancellor and vice admiral in the same &c.

To the Honourable his Majesties Council for said Province, and to the Representatives of Said Province in General Assembly, Convened at Eliz^th Town, Novr. 12th, 1755.

The Memorial of Josiah Broadwell, Alexander Simpson, Absalom Bedell, & Cornelius Ludlam of the Borrough of Elizabeth.

Humbly Sheweth,

That Your Memorialists, upon hearing fresh Reports of the approach of the Enemy, near the Forks of Delaware To know the Certainty of them, took Horse, the 8th Instant near Ten at night, and arrived at Easton in the Forks of Delaware, the 9th at Sunset, where we found the People in the utmost Consternation & Distress, as they had Certain Intelligence of a Body of 1500 French & Indians, within 60 miles of them; who were actually employed in Building a Fort a Little Below Shamokin, and that they have killed great numbers of people, and that Two men Dwellers at Easton have been up, & assisted in buriing the Dead: and that the People where we were in the Forks, had certain Intelligence that the Enemy were Determined to be upon them before the Light nights of this moon are past, and a Friend Indian who Deserted from them, says, they say among themselves that now is the Time, for the Barns are full, & the Cattle are fat.

YOUR MEMORIALISTS, therefore beg Leave in Behalf & at the most earnest Prayer, of the Distressed People near the Forks, to

* See Col. Rec. Vol. VI., p. 739–740, for the Governor's remarks upon it to T. Penn. This address is printed in Votes of Assembly, Vol. IV., p. 496. It was presented by some of them in person, Nov. 11, 1755.

move to this Honorable Legislature, that some effective measure's may with utmost Dispatch be taken to Defend them, as their only hope under God is upon this Honourable Legislature.

And your memorialists as in
Duty Bound shall ever pray.

JOSIAH BROADWELL,
ALEXANDER SIMPSON,
ABSALOM BEDELL,
CORNELIUS LUDLOW.

Eliz^a Town, Novr 12, 1755.

Indorsed.

Petition, Justice Broadwell, &c., about French and Indians to Govr. Belcher. Nov. 12, 1755.

GOV. BELCHER TO GOV. MORRIS, 1755.

Sir:

I wrote you at large *10 Ins^t; ℘ the Post, which I hope got well to your Hands—since which I have received further Intelligence of the Motions of the Enemy, & of the Behaviour of the Moravians, the Particulars whereof Your Honour will find by the Inclosed Petition† and Affidavit, of Josiah Broadwell & others. I have also several Letters, confirming the Accounts relating to the Enemy, & upon these repeated Intelligences, I express'd Orders on the 6 Ins^t; to Every Col^l. of this Province, to muster His Regiment &c.; I repeated them again Yesterday, Copy of which I send you herewith.‡ I hope when your People see the Readiness of this little Governm^t; to do all in their Power, for the common Safety of the King's Subjects, that they will exert themselves, & Joyn in it, with the greatest alacrity. I am,

Sir,
Your Honours
most obedienl humble serv^t.
J. BELCHER.

Eliz^n Town, (N. J.)
Novr 13, 1755.

Directed. Lt Governour Morris.

* See it page 478. † See Preceding Paper. ‡ See p. 481.

Gov. Sharpe to Gov. Morris, 1755.

N. York, November the 13th, 1755

Sir:

I thank you for your Letter inclosing your Message to the Assembly, & their Address thereon which I have received, I think there is but little room to hope that the Issue of Your Assembly's Meeting has been such as could be wished, tho' it is reported here that you have obtained from them a large Sum for the Defence of the Frontiers; General Shirley is at Albany, but I have not yet heard from him, I believe I shall stay to see him which I hope I shall do the Beginning of next week at farthest, I hope within three or four Days afterwards to be able to pay my Respects to You at Philadelphia, & to assure you again that I am with the greatest Regard.

Sir,

Your most humble obedt servant,

HORO. SHARPE.

Indorsed.

Govr. Sharpe, Lre.

H. Fox, Secr'y, to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Whitehall, 14th Novr. 1755.

Sir:

His Majesty having been graciously pleased on the Resignation of Sir Thos Robinson, to honor me with the Office of His Principal Secretary of State for the Southern Department; I am to desire that you will for the future address your Letters to me, which you may be assured, I shall punctually and regularly lay before The King, and transmit to you, such Instructions, and Orders, as His Majesty may think proper to give for your Guidance & Direction.

I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient

Humble Servant,

H. FOX.

P. S. Your Letters of July 30th, & Augst. 28th, have been received.

Indorsed.—Mr. Fox.

Depy Govr. of Pensylvania.

EXAMINATION OF H. FRY, &c.—AFFAIRS AT WYOMING, 1755.

The Examination of John Shmick & Henry Fry at their return from a Journey to Wayoming:

Q.—When came you to Wayoming?

A.—We set out from Bethlehem the 6th Instt, & arrived at Wayoming the 10th.

Q.—What occurr'd to you on the Way there?

A.—Last Sunday, the 9th, We met with a Indian who had a Bundle of Skins on his Back and a Gun in his Hand, who as soon as he saw Us, cried out in a great Fright, who are you? we answer'd, good Friends. We then ask'd him where he came from, and where He would go to? He Answer'd, from Wayoming, and was going to Gnadenhütten. And when he came near to Us, We observ'd that He trembled with Fear. He then ask'd Us where we came from? And hearing that we came from Gnadenhütten, he shook Hands friendly with us, & laid his Gun down by a Tree and lit his Pipe, and ask'd how the Indians in Gnadenhütten did, and if all was quiet & peaceable there? We answer'd that all was well & peaceable. He was a Delaware, & Shmick spoke Delaware with Him. He had a Br in Gnadenhütten, whom he was then going to Visit. N. B. We had no Gun with us. Some Hours after, as we went up a Mountain, We observ'd a Bear Skin with Flesh in it, tied up with a carrying Band, hang on a Tree by the way, and as we went down on the other Side, an Indian overtook Us, and told Us that the Indiam whom the Flesh belong'd to was afraid of Us, and had run into the Woods to hide himself. He that told us this was on Horseback & going from Gnadenhütten home to Wayoming, and we had no further Discourse with him. The next day, in going down the Wayoming Mountain, We saw an Indian before us with a Bear Skin, and Deer Skin, and some Flesh on his Back & a Gun in his Hand, who as soon as he observ'd Us, walk'd so Fast that we could not overtake him in two Miles Distance, but being then a good way before Us, He rested his Burden against a Tree, & seeing we had no Gun with us, He stayed till we came up with him, we then ask'd Him where He lived? He said at Wayoming, and so we pass'd on & left Him. He was a Delaware, and look'd Frightened. About Noon we cross'd the Susquehanna and came to Wayoming, where the Indians, as soon as they heard of White People being come, They all stood at their Doors to see Us, & saluted Us & we them, & so we went along 'till we came to Packshanos their Chief's House, where the Indians came to Us, shook Hands with us, & bid us welcome.

Q.—How long did you stay there?

A.—From Monday Noon 'till Tuesday Morning at Sunrise.

Q.—What was your business there?

A.—We were sent from Bethlehem by Br Spangenberg to the Shawano Chiefs Packshanos & Abraham & Jonathan, Indians living

at Wayoming, to salute them and desire them Assistance to get our Br Mark Kiefer from Shomokin to Wayoming, & to send him with our Br Post, who is now at Wayoming, to Bethlehem, to escape the Danger they are exposed to in those Parts.

Q.—What has been Post's Business there?

A.—As there are Indians lately removed there from Gnadenhütten & Shecomeco, & other Places, to whom the Brethren for these many Years past have preach'd the Gospel, & some of them are baptised, His proper Business, & the only Commission he has from the Congregation at Bethlehem is, (to use the Indians own Phrase,) to speak Words to them of their God & Creator as often as they desire it.

Q.—What Answer did Packshanos, Abraham, & Jonathan give to the Message you brought them from Br Spangenberg.

A.—Packshanos & Abraham said we are old, we can't travel well, but said Packshanos, I will send my Son, & Jonathan sd, I am willing to go with him, & to fetch the Br to Wayoming, if he is yet alive; and accordingly they set out early on Tuesday the 11th. We gave them a Let[illegible] to Mark Kiefer from Br Spangenberg, & Packshanos gave them the following Instructions, vizt., To go down the River on that side as far as Labach Peters, & there cross the River, & enquire at Labach Peters (a small Indian Town) how it was at Shomokin, if the French were there, as they in Wayomick had been inform'd, erecting a Fort; and if they were there inform'd of danger, then to proceed till within 6 Miles of Shomokin & there to leave their Horses, & to go on in the Night to Shomokin, & to go to the Brs House & get him away in the Night & convey him to Wayoming. And Mark Kiefer's Instructions is, to leave the House & Things at all Adventures, & go forthwith along with them to Wayoming, & from thence to Bethlehem.

Q.—What further Conversation had you with the Indians there?

A.—Jonathan, an Indian, told us that Packshanos and Abraham, Jonathan's Father, and some others, were sent for to Shomokin, & when they came there they found that the Indians there were convened to a Treaty, Where a Mohawk French Indian gave a String of Wampum & address'd the other Indians in these Terms: Your Grand Father, i. e., the French King, sends you Word that I intend to come down with 1500 Men with me, but do not you be afraid, For I do not design to hurt you, but only the White People like my Self; but I would let you know that I have a broad, sharp Hatchet, therefore do you stand of & come not near lest you get hurt, for my Hatchet is very Broad & Sharp. To whom the Indians made Answer, if this is your Intention, then come not thro' our Land. They told us Further, that they were afraid of the English, for they had been told that they intended to come to Wayoming & bind the Indians, & carry them to Philada, and if any resisted, they would cut his Head off, & ask'd us if we knew any thing of it? We answer'd, that it is true that the white People are very much disturb'd, because

that so many of them have been murther'd about the Susquehana, and a White Man, who was fired at & wounded, made his Escape, & reported that it was a Delaware who shot him, & that the white People did not know how to understand the Matter, whether the Murther was committed by our Indians or by French Indians, or who else had done it. He, Packshanos, said that he could answer for it, that not one of his Wayoming Indians had any Hand in it. But it may be that the Delawares, Shawanos, & other Indians about the Allegheny Mountains & Ohio, may have been procured by the French to do this Mischief. We told that we thought it would be well if He sent Word to the Governour of it, & that he might be inform'd of their Mind, and prevent any misunderstanding. To which Packshanos & Abraham answer'd, that we have done 2 days ago by 2 Strings of Wampum and a Message to the Governour, by Mr. Charles Broadhead; that as the Governour told us at a Treaty last Spring, that we, the Indians of Wayoming, should sit still & be quiet, & that we have receiv'd Word & a String of Wampum to the same purpose from Genl Johnson, and we, the Indians at Wayoming, in Consequence of the Governour's & Johnson's Word, do sit still & are quiet But still they are in Fear, & know not what to do, for there comes no Trader now amongst them, and they are afraid to go among the white People, & their Ammunition is spent, if they should have occasion to defend themselves, they would be in the greatest distress. And they ask'd us if the Brethren at Bethlehem or Gnadenhütten had Powder & Lead to sell? We answer'd no.

Jonathan also inform'd us that Packshanos kept very good order among his Indians at Wayoming, & that no one goes out a Hunting without first acquainting Him, when & where he intends to go, and when He'll return, that so upon any Occasion the Indians may very soon be called together.

Taken before me, on their Solemn Affirmation, the 15th Nov^r, 1755.

TIM^o. HORSFIELD.*

Gen. Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Albany, Novr 15, 1755.

Sir,

Yesterday Afternoon I had the Honour of receiving two Packetts from you by Express, the first dated Octo^r 31st,† and a subsequent one without Date; in the former of these you represent to me the Devastations now making by the French, & Indians in their Interest, upon his Majesty's Subjects in the back Settlements of your Government, and the Designs which you apprehend the French have upon his

* Inclosed in T. H.'s Letter of November 6th, see Examination of Seidel and Zeisberger, page 458.

† Col. Rec. Vol. VI. p. 665

Majesty's Territories there, particularly Shamokin; and acquaint me "that your Council have unanimously advis'd you to apply to me, "to order such of his Majesty's Forces as the Exigencies of the "Province under your Command require, and his Majesty's Service "in the other Colonies will permit me to spare," and in the latter you inform me, you have receiv'd further Intelligence of the Mischiefs and Cruelties committed by the Indians; "that you are without Men, Money, Arms or Ammunition at your Disposal, can get "no aid from the Assembly of your Province, and do not see how you "can protect the People, or secure the Province from being lay'd "waste unless I will supply you with Troops & Money for that Purpose," and desire me to furnish you with the latter upon the foundation of Sir Thomas Robinson's Circular Letter, dated June 19th, to the several Governors upon this Continent, directing them to apply to the Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Forces for the time being in North America, for such sums of money wch may be necessary to discharge such Expences, as have been or may be incurr'd on Acct of the Services or Operations to be perform'd by them, or in any respect under their Directions, and which are not properly chargeable to the Account of their respective Governments.

I am extremely concern'd, S.r, at the calamitous Situation of his Majesty's distress'd Subjects in the back Settlements of your Province, without any prospect of immediate Relief from your Government, and the cruel Depopulations daily made in his Territories there, wch seem at present to be abandon'd to the Enemy. I do assure you, if it was in my Power to send you present Succour from his Majesty's Forces under my Command, I would do it with the greatest Pleasure; But the State of those Forces, and the Colonies where they are posted, will not admit of my doing it. The three Regiments in Nova Scotia are but barely sufficient, with the New England Auxiliaries now there, to protect that Province against the Attempts wch may be suddenly made by the French; Sir William Pepperrell's and my own Regiments, except a very small Detachment, are posted at Oswego, upon the Carrying Place at Oneida, & at the German Flatts, for the protection of the first mention'd Important Place, and our necessary Magazines of Stores & Provisions at the other two, upon the preservation of which all the Operations of an early Campaign the next Spring absolutely depend; of the two British Regiments in the City the Effectives fit for Duty do not exceed 1050, and 600 of those have held themselves in readiness these two Days to march to the Assistance of the Army at Lake George, wch is alarmed with Intelligence of a very large Body of the Enemy's being in motion to attack it, and it is necessary the remainder of them should continue here; Besides, the sending of these Regiments, or any considerable part of them this Winter to the back parts of your Province, must inevitably ruin his Majesty's Service for the next Spring.

As to my furnishing you with the King's money, Sir, for defraying Expences, wch you take Notice of in your Letter is chargeable to the Account of your Government, the bare Inspection of Sir Thomas Robinson's Letter must shew it to be out of my Power, and I can't but hope that your rich populous Government will not continue insensible of the Devastations daily made in their Country; but if it was possible that their Duty to his Majesty, & a sense of the Miseries of the People in the expos'd parts of the Government should not be sufficient Motives to them to protect the People under their Care, yet their own Interest, & even preservation as *a Government* must effectually prevail with them to do it.

As to the Provisions wch you mention in your Letter to have been purchas'd by you for General Braddock, and to be left in your Hands and wch you purpose to use for the People in the back parts of your Province; if you will take upon you to have them replac'd in the City of New York by April next, in such Case I shall have no Objection to your using them upon the present Occasions, otherwise I can't consent to have those Provisions diverted from the use of the King's Troops.

The Powder and Ordnance Stores in Fort Cumberland are lodg'd there for his Majesty's Service in an Expedition against the French Settlements upon the Ohio, which I hope will be effectually carry'd on the next year, so that I can't possibly order any part of them for the use of the Inhabitants of your Government, where I suppose a sufficient Quantity may be had for the present Occasion of the expos'd Inhabitants.

I am,
Sir, Your most obedient
Humble Sevant,
W. SHIRLEY.

Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr.

Indorsed.

Genl Shirley, Albany, Novr 15th, 1755.

Gen. Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Albany, Novr 15th, 1755.

Dear Sir:

It gives me Pain to See the Distress of mind, which I know so generous an one as yours must be in upon the Calamitous Situation of the poor People in the back Settlements of your Governmt, & the daily Devastation & Incroachments made within & upon his Majesty's Territories under your Command, owing to the Obstinacy & perverseness of your Assembly, and to find myself incapable of giving you and the poor expos'd Sufferers the desir'd Assistance.

The only Advice I can give you under these malancholly Circum-

stances, is to continue to do (as you have hitherto done) every thing in your Power to encourage the People to exert themselves in their own Defence, & to persevere in your Representations to the Assembly of the ruinous State of these People, and the imminent danger there is of great part of the Provinces being suddenly lost to the Enemy, and in your Applications to them (the Assembly) to do their Duty to their King & Country in putting an End to the Miseries & Pain of the poor expos'd Sufferers, and preventing the loss which the Crown is threaten'd with.

This, my Dear Sir, is all you can do at present, & to wait with patience for the Success of your Endeavours, which you should not dispair of.

Amidst these publick Evils wch surround & distress you, it gives me great Pleasure to find the promising prospect you have of greatly increasing your private Fortune, & laying up happier hours for yourself when you shall be rid of your present Troubles.

I am very sorry for & greatly surpriz'd at the part Franklin hath acted towards you.

Leslie and Scott are to set out tomorrow in order to wait upon you, and assisting in settling the Waggoner's Accounts, &c.

The Troops must have perish'd if I had not consented to the building of some Barracks; I did every thing to avoid it I could.

My Orders to Colonel Dunbar were to leave the Independent Companies at Fort Cumberland; when he had brought them to Philadelphia, I then indeed order'd him to bring them to Albany.

Your Nephew merits every thing which I can with Propriety do for him, and the kindness I have conceiv'd for him with my Friendship to you will prompt me in the strongest manner to do it.

The inclos'd will shew you what I am order'd to do by the Lords Justices. I think the concerting a general Plan of Operations for the ensuing Year a Work of very great Consequence to his Majesty's Service & all the Colonies, and will be the most effectual means for putting an End to Mischiefs now reigning in your own Government, and preventing the like for the future; and I can't but think, if you can possibly attend the Council I shall hold at New York on the first or second of December, if possible, without very extraordinary Inconveniences & Dangers arising to your Province from your Absence for a few days, it would greatly promote the public Good, & be well taken by his Majesty's Ministers. If this Opportunity is lost a Congress of Governors can't be had this Year, & his Majesty's Service, I am persuaded, must suffer greatly for want of it.

I beg, the Instant you receive this, in case you shall not meet me, you will dispatch your Answer to me at New York, to let me know it.

I am with great Truth and Esteem,

Dear Sir,

Your Affectionate Friend, and

faithfull Humble Servant,

W. SHIRLEY.

Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr.

P. S. I have desir'd Govr Sharpe, notwithstanding his former Disappointment to be present at the Council.

Indorsed.

General Shirley, 15 Nov^r, 1755.

Extract from Governor Shirley's Letter to Gov. Morris, 1755.

The inclosed will Shew you what I am ordered to do by ye Lords Justices; I think ye concerting a general Plan of Operations for ye ensuing Year, a work of very great Consequence to his Majesty's Service, and all ye Colonies, & will be ye most effectual means of putting an End to Mischiefs now reigning in your own Government, & preventing ye like for ye future, and I can't but think if you can possibly attend ye Council I shall hold at New York on ye first or second of December, if possible, without very extraordinary Inconveniences & Dangers arising to your Province from your absence for a few Days, it would greatly promote ye Public Good, & be well taken by his Majesty's Ministers. If this Opportunity is lost, a Congress of Governors can't be had this year, & his Majesty's Service, I am persuaded, must Suffer greatly for want of it.

A true Copy,

RICHARD PETERS, Secry.*

Indorsed.

Extract of Govr Shirley's Letter to Govr Morris.

Albany, Novr ye 15th, 1755.

Sir Charles Hardy to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Albany, 16th November, 1755.

Sir,

I have the honour of your several Letters, by Express, of the 29 and 31st October, and the 1st, 2d and 6th† of this month, with copies of the Intelligence concerning the Enemy's motions in the back parts of your province, also the Letters from the Secretary of State and the Board of Trade, for the care of which I am much obliged to you.

I am extremely concerned to see your Assembly will not make the necessary Provision for the defence of their country, and truely, if they will not enter on the proper Measures upon the earliest Advices of an Invasion, I fear little can be expected from them, and great part of the Colony must be laid waste before the Enemy can be opposed.

* See Col. Rec. Vol. VI., p. 745, 747, 765. † See p. 472.

However difficult it may be to bring the Assembly to pass, a Militia Law, I should hope they might be brought to pass a Vote of Credit, to enable you to raise men for the security and defence of the Province. Your situation under the present circumstances, must be very disagreeable, but I hope your Presence may have good effects, as you will be able to put those who are in readiness to appear for the common defence, into some Order and Regulation, and I wish it were in my power to assist you with any Arms or Ammunition, but what we have, is all employed in the present service.

Commissioners are here from Massachusetts Bay and Connecticut Governments, to determine what measures are to be taken with their forces raised for the Expedition, against Crown Point, which has had no better succes than the other Expeditions carryed on this year.

General Shirley tells me he writes to you by this Express, to desire you will give him a Meeting at New York. I hope the present state of things in your Province, will not prevent our having the pleasure of seeing you, as a general Conference of the Governors seems absolutely necessary, for the promoting and carrying into execution his Majesty's service next year.

I hope to be able to leave this City in a few days, and to kiss your hand at New York. I am, with great esteem,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble Servant,

CHAS. HARDY.

Governor Morris.

I beg leave to trouble you with the inclosed, which I am desired to forward by Col. Dunbar.

Indorsed,

Sr Charles Hardy, 16 Novr, 1755.

Gov. Morris to Gen. Shirley, 1755.

Nov. 10, 1755.

Dear Sir,

This will be delivered you by Mr. Benzill, who has behaved himself exceeding well ever since he entered into the service of the Crown, and should you want men for your own Regiment, as he speaks the Dutch and Sweedish Languages well, I think he will be a very good Assistant Officer to my nephew in this Province, but of this you are the best judge.

I have the pleasure to acquaint you that the Indians, after having laid waste a considerable extent of country, and drove about a thousand familys from their habitations, have retired from our borders,

but am affraid they have left us but for a little time, and will return with greater numbers and penetrate much further into the Province, as they have hitherto met with no resistance, nor do I expect the Assembly will enable me to oppose them in their future operations.

I hope this will find you at New York, perfectly recovered from the fatigues of the Campaign, and enjoying perfect health.

You must be sensible Sir, how necessary it is for his Majesty's Service, and the safety of these His Dominions, that the strength of the Colonys should be united against the French, and under such a direction, that it may be employed in the most effectuall manner, for while they remain in this Present disjoynted state, and the several Colonys not only at liberty whether they will act or not, but also in what manner and where they will employ their strength, this must in its consequence weaken any operations that depend in the least upon what they will do. The formation of a union may not therefore be unworthy your consideration, at this time; a war with France seems to be at hand, the scene of which may probably be in America.

The Plan formed at Albany, was upon such Republican Principles, that I do not wonder it was not relished at home, as it seemed calculated to unite the Colonys in such a manner, as to give the Crown little or no influence in their Councils; any new plan must therefore be such as will meet with approbation at home, to which end it should be drawn so as to enable the Government to employ the united force of the Colonys, where and when they may think it necessary, and at the same time to keep them in that Constitutional dependence upon the mother nation, that is so necessary for their mutual Interest and safety.

When these matters are under your consideration, you will turn your thoughts to this Province, situated in the midst of the British Empire, extensive in its bounds, temperate in its climate, and from its produce, trade and number of inhabitants, capable of contributing largely towards the support of the Common cause. But unfortunately, under the Government of a set of men who are or pretend to be principled against defending themselves or their Country. To oblige this Rich and flourishing Province, therefore, to bear its part of the common and necessary Expences of defending and securing the whole, seems an object worthy your attention, and I cannot doubt but the several governors that will meet you at New York, will readily joyn you in such representations as you may judge necessary to obtain a thing so just and reasonable in itself.

Indorsed,
Nov. 16th, 1755, Dft. to Gen'l Shirley.

Gov. Morris to Gov. Hopkins, 1755.

Philad^a., Novr. 16, 1755.

Sir,

Before I was favour'd with Either of yours I had taken off the Genl Embargo upon Provisions, so far as to admit of their going to the neighbouring Colonys and our own Islands, which made particular Lycences to the Vessels you sent unnecessary, which they should otherwise have had; The intention of the Embargo being to hinder any Supply from going to the French, and not to distress our own Colonys.

I flattered myself with the pleasure of meeting you at New York at the Congress Genl. Shirley has convened there, but the Affairs of this Province are so circumstanced at Present that I cannot Possibly leave them. The Indians who lately infested our Borders are indeed retired; but having met with no resistance in their Late incursions, there is too much reason to fear they will return with more violence and penetrate deep into the Settlem^ts, and I am trying to prevail on my Assembly to make some Provision to resist them, but whether we shall agree upon the terms is as yet very uncertain.

Since writing the above, I have intelligence that a party of Indians have Cross'd the Mountains from the Northward, and are laying waste the Settlem^ts and Slaughtering the Inhabitants; the people in that neighbourhood are mustering together, but having no Discipline and but few arms, will be able to make but little resistance.

Indorsed.—Draft to Govr. Hopkins.

Timothy Horsfield to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Bethlehem, Novr. 16, 1755.

May it Please Your Honour,

Sir,

According to my promise in my last, that if at the return of the two Brethren that went to Wyoming I could Learn any thing worth communicating I would take care to do it, I would now beg leave to Inform your Honour That soon after their return I Examined them, and now Inclose the Examination,* and Humbly conceive there is something in it worthy your Honour's notice.

I am with all Due Respect,
Your Honour's Very Obed^t
Humble Servant,
TIMO. HORSFIELD.

Directed.—To the Honble Robt. Hunter Morris, Esqr., Governor of Pensylvania.

* See page 491.

Gov. Morris to Gov. Belcher, 1755.

Sir,

I am honor'd with two letters* from your Excellency, and take this opportunity to Acknowledge your care and regard for the safety of these Colonys, and to thank you for your ready offer of assistance to this Province in Particular. I admire the spirit that prevails in your Province, where a just sense of the Blessings they enjoy, a due regard both to the rights of Governm^t and the Libertys of the people are the springs that actuate their publick councils, and enable them tho' a small province, drain'd of a considerable part of their wealth by the trading citys on each side of them to make a figure equal to most of their neighbours, and superior to some that are much more able. I know not how soon they may be obliged to act in their own defence, for I have just received intelligence that the Indians have passed the Sasquahana, and are fallen upon the Country beyond Reading, at a place call'd Tulpehockin, which is one of the finest settlements in this Province. When the Express came away they had laid waste a considerable part of that settlement, and the people were flying before them, having no discipline, and but few Arms among them. In the Hurry that this fresh intelligence occasions, I have only time to Assure you that,

I am, &c.

Indorsed,

Novr. 17th, 1755. Draft to Govr. Belcher.

Gov. Morris to Gen. Shirley, 1755.

Philad^a., Novr. 17, 1775.

Dear Sir,

Since writing the Letter herewith, I have recc'd intelligence that the Indians have fallen upon the Inhabitants to the Southward of the Mountains, at and near a place called Tulpehockin,† about Sixty miles from hence, where they had when the Express came away, burnt several Houses, and killed Such of the Inhabitants as cou'd not escape from them; The Settlement they are now destroying is one of the finest in this Province, the Lands are very rich and well improved.

I am, Dear Sir,
Your Most Affectionate,
Humble Servt,
ROBT. H. MORRIS.

Genl. Shirley.

Indorsed,

Letter to Genl. Shirley, 17 Nov. 1775.

* See p. 481–489. † See Colon. Rec., Vol. VI., p. 703.

Gen. Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Albany, Novr 19th, 1755.

Sir:

Upon further Consideration of the expos'd State of his Majesty's Territories in the back Settlements of the Province, under your Government and present Incursions of the French & Indians into them, together with the distress'd Condition of his Majesty's Subjects Inhabiting there, whom you have represented to be in want of Ammunition requisite for defending themselves, & the King's Rights against the Enemy, as also of Provisions, & that you have no Expectation of the Assembly in your Governments providing the necessary Supplies for them in time, in order to prevent the immediate Depopulations & Incroachments, wch threaten his Majesty's said Territories, & relieve his distress'd Subjects there, untill the Assembly of your Province shall make effectual provision for the Defence & protection of both, I inclose you an Order for 50 Barrels of the King's Powder in the Magazine at Fort Cumberland, near Will's Creek, for those purposes, & hereby consent to your Distributing such Quantities of his Majesty's Provisions in your Hands, as shall be necessary for the Support of such of the Inhabitants in the back Settlements as are employ'd in Defence of the King's Lands there, in confidence that your Assembly will soon order the 50 Barrrells of Powder & Provisions, wch shall be expended in the aforesaid Services to be replac'd in his Majesty's Stores.

Mr. Leake, the Commissary General of Provisions here, the Waggon Master, General Scott and Lieut. Leslie, Assistant to the Deputy Quarter Master General, will attend you soon at Philadelphia, and bring two Letters with them to Messrs James Turnass & Richard Vernon, * * * * * * to attend the Settlements of the Accompts of what is due to the Waggoners, &c.

I am,

Sir,

Your most Obedient Humble

Servant,

W. SHIRLEY.

Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr.

P. S.—As the laying before me several Accompts will retard the Departure of the Waggon Master Genl, Mr. Leslie and Leake, I send these dispatches by Express to let your Honour see the necessity of staying for their arrival before the Accompts depending with Waggons, &c., can be gone into at Philadelphia.

Indorsed.

General Shirley. Novr 19, 1755.

Conrad Weiser to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Honoured Sir:

On my Return from Philadelphia I met in the Township of Amity, in Berks County, the first News of our cruel Enemy having invaded the Country this Side of the Blue Mountain, to witt, Bethel and Tulpenhacon. I left the Papers as the were in the Messengers Hands, and hasted to Reading, where the Alarm and Confusion was very great. I was obliged to stay that Night and part of the next Day, to witt, the 17th of this Instant, and sot out for Heidleberg, where I arrived that Evening. Soon after, my sons Philip and Frederick arrived from the Persuit of the Indians, and gave me the following Relation, to witt, that on Saturday last about 4 of the Clock, in the Afternoon, as some Men from Tulpenhacon were going to Dietrick Six's Place under the Hill on Shamokin Road to be on the Watch appointed there, they were fired upon by the Indians but none hurt nor killed, (Our People were but Six in Number, the rest being behind,) upon which our People ran towards the Watch-house which was about one half a mile off, and the Indians persued them, and killed and Scalped several of them. A bold, Stout Indian came up with one Christopher Ury, who turned about and shot the Indian right through his Breast. The Indian dropt down Dead, but was dragged out of the way by his own Companions. (he was found next Day and scalped by our People). The Indians devided themselves in two Parties, Some came this Way to meet the Rest that was going to the Watch, and killed some of them, so that six of our Men were killed that Day, and a few Wounded. The Night following the Enemy attacked the House of Thos. Brown, on Swartaro Creek. They came to the House in the Dark night, and one of them put his Fire-Arm through the Window and shot a Shoemaker (that was at Work) dead upon the Spot. The People being extreamly Surprized at this Sudden attack, defended themselves by firing out of the Windows at the Indians. The Fire alarmed a neighbour who came with two or three more Men; they fired by the Way and made a great noise, scared the Indians away from Bower's House, after they had set fire to it, but by Thomas Bower's Deligence and Conduct was timely put out again, So Thos. Bower, with his Family, went off that Night to his Neighbour Daniel Schneider, who came to his assistance. By 8 of ye Clock Parties came up from Tulpenhacon & Heidleberg. The first Party saw four Indians running off. They had some Prisoners, whom they scalped immediately, three Children lay scalped yet alive, one died since, the other two are like to do well. Another Party found a Woman just expired with a male Child on her side, both killed and Skalped. The Woman lay upon her Face, my Son Frederick turned her about to see who she might have been, and to his and his Companions Surprize they found

a Babe of about 14 Days old under her, raped up in a little Cushion, his nose quite flat, which was set right by Frederick, and life was yet in it, and recovered again. Our People came up with two Parties of Indians that Day, but they hardly got sight of them. The Indians Ran off Imediately. Either our People did not care to fight them if the could avoid it, or (which is more likely) the Indians were alarmed first by the loud noise of our Peoples coming, because no Order was observed. Upon the whole, there is about 15 killed of our People, Including Men, Women and Children, and the Enemy not beat but scared off. Several Houses and Barns are Burned; I have no true account how many. We are in a Dismal Situation, some of this Murder has been comitted in Tulpenhacon Township. The People left their Plantation to within 6 or 7 miles from my House. I am now Busy to put Things in Order to defend my House against another attach.

Guns and Amunition is very much wanted here, my Sons have been obliged to part with most of that, that was sent up for the use of the Indians. I pray your Honour will be pleased, if it lies in your Power, to send us up a Quantity upon any Condition. I must stand my Ground or my neighbours will all go away, and leave their Habitations to be destroyed by the Enemy or our own People. This is enough of such melancholy Account for this Time. I beg leave to Conclude, who am,

Sir,

Your very obedient,

CONRAD WEISER.

Heidleberg, in Berks County, November 19th, 1755.

P. S.—I am creditable informed just now that one Wolf, a Single Man, killed an Indian the same Time when Ury killed the Other, but the Body is not found yet. The Poor Young Man since died of his Wound through his Belly.

To Governour Morris.

Indorsed.

Conrad Weiser to ye Governour relating ye Murders done near Tulpenhacon, Novr 19th, 1755.

Conrad Weiser to Gov. Morris, 1755.

May it please the Governor!

That night after my Arrival from Philadelphia, Emanuel Carpenter and Simon Adam Kuhn, Esqrs., came to my House, and lodged with me. They acquainted me that a meeting was appointed (of the People of Tulpenhacon & Heidleberg and adjacent Places,) in Tulpenhacon Township, at Benjamin Spicker's early next morn-

ing. I made all the Hast with the Indians I could, and gave them a Letter to Thos McKee, to furnish them with necessaries for their Journey, Scarujade had no Creature to ride on. I gave him one. Before I could get done with the Indians 3 or 4 Men came from Benja. Spickers to warn the Indians not to go that way, for the People ware so enraged against all the Indians, & would kill them without Distinction, I went with them; so did the Gentlemen beforenamed. When we came near Benjamin Spickers I saw about 4 or 500 men, and there was a loud noise, I rode before, and in riding along the Road (and armed men on both Sides of the Road:) I heard some say, why must we be killed by the Indians and we not kill them! why are our Hands so tied? I got the Indians to the House with much adoe, where I treated them with a small Dram, and so parted in Love and Friendship. Captt Diefenback undertook to conduct them, (with five other men) to Susquehanah. After this a sort of a Counsel of warr was held by the officers present, the Gentlemen beforenamed and other Freeholders. It was agreed that 150 men should be raised immediately to serve as outscouts, and as Guards at Certain Places under the Kittitany Hills for 40 Days; That those so raised to have 2 Shillings ℔ Day, & 2 Pound of Bread, 2 Pounds of Beaff and a Jill of Rum, and Powder & Lead, (Arms they must find themselves:) This Scheme was signed by a good many Freeholders and read to the People. They cried out that so much for an Indian Scalp they would have, (be they Friends or Enemies) from the Governor. I told them I had no such Power from the Governor nor Assembly. They begun, some to Curse the Governor; some the Assembly; called me a Traitor of the Country who held with the Indians, and must have known this murder before hand, I sat in the House by a Lowe Window, some of my Friends came to pull me away from it, telling me some of the People threatened to shoot me. I offered to go out to the People and either Pasefy them or make the Kings Proclamation; But those in the House with me would not let me go out, The cry was. *The Land was betrayed and sold.* The Comon People From Lancaster County were the worst. The wages they said was a Trifle and said some Body pocketed the Rest, and they would resent it. Some Body had put it into their Head that I had it in my Power to give as much as I pleased. I was in Danger of being Shot to Death. In the mean Time a great smoke arose under Tulpenhacon Mountain, with the news following, that the Indians had comitted murder on mill Creek, (a false alarm) and set fire to a Barn, most of the People Ran and those that had Horses Rode off without any Order or Regulation, I then took my Horse and went Home, where I intend to stay, and defend my own House as long as I can, There is no Doings with the People without a Law or Regulation by the Governor and Assembly. The people of Tulpenhacon all fled; till about 6 or

7 miles from me some few remains. Another such attack will lay all the Country waste on the West side of Schuylkill.

I am,
Sir,
your Most obedient,
*

Heidleberg in the County of Berks, }
November 19th, 1755. }

Governor Morris.

Indorsed.
Conrad Weiser. [Copied.)

Gov. Morris to Gen. Shirley, 1755.

Sir:

I wrote your Excellency a few days ago by Mr. Benzill, †who I hope will find you safe at N. York, since which two vessels are arrived here with upward of three hundred Neutral French from Nova Scotia,‡ who governor Lawrence has sent to remain in this Province, and I am at a very great loss what to do with them. The people here as there is no military force of any kind, are very uneasy at the thoughts of having a number of Enemy's scaterd in the very bowells of the Country, who may go off from time to time with intelligence and Joyn their countrymen now employed against us, or foment some intestine commotion in conjunction with the Irish and German catholics, in this and the neighbouring Province, I therefore must beg your particular Instructions in what manner I may best dispose of these people, as I am desirous of doing any thing that may contribute to his Majisty's Service. I have in the mean time put a guard out of the recruiting partys now in town on board of each vessel, and ordered these neutrals to be supplyd with Provisions, which must be at the expence of the Crown, as I have no Provincial money in my hands; for this service I have prevailed on Capt Morris, who is recruiting here for Collo. Dunbars Regiment, to postpone the sending off his recruits till I could hear from you upon the head, which I hope to do by the return of the post.

Indorsed.
Dft. to Genl. Shirley.
Novr. 20th, 1755.

* Autograph cut off. † See p. 498.
‡ See Colon. Rec. Vol. VI, p. 712, 729, 751.

Gov. Sharpe to Gov. Morris, 1755.

New York, November the 20th, 1755.

Sir,

Two days ago I received a Letter from General Shirley, dated at Albany, the 10th inst., wherein he gave me reason to expect him here before this time; it is now reported that he is not yet embarked, & said by some that he is marched with the two British Regiments to join General Johnson at Lake George, this however, I cannot credit, because I think in that case he would have favoured me with a Letter. Some Gentlemen of this City have been advised by their Correspondents at Albany, that on the 12th, at Night, an Express arrived from Johnson's Camp, & informed General Shirley that a Body of 7000 French & Indians were within twenty miles of his Camp or Fort, & advancing towards it; on the Receipt of this Intelligence, the two Regiments it seems were ordered to march, as was Colonel Scyler, with about 150 of the Jersey Regiment that was encamped near Albany, & orders were instantly sent to the Officers of the Militia in the four most Northern Counties of this Province, to hasten with 800 or 1000 men to Albany, to garrison that place, & convoy Provisions to the Army. We expect every minute to receive more certain Accounts, but many People are of Opinion that there has been already an Engagement between the two armies; I should be sorry to return to Maryland without seeing the General, but if he does not give me farther room to expect his arrival very early next week, I believe I shall not postpone my journey longer than Monday next.

With the greatest Regard,

I am, Sir,

Your most humble

& obedient Servant,

HORO. SHARPE.

Indorsed.

Govr Sharpe, 20 Nov., 1755.

Gov. Morris to Gov. Sharpe, 1755.

Philada. Nov. 22d, 1756.

Sir,

The inclosed Letter I received from Commodore Spry, I have taken the first opportunity of forwarding the same to you.

I am sorry that I cannot acquaint you of my Assembly's having fallen into such measures, for the Present defence of the Back Parts

of the Province, that I could have Complyed with. But it seems as if it was determined that we shall never agree.

They have indeed sent me such a Militia Bill as never was thought of in any other Country, & I am afraid was intended to answer no Purposes but to amuse the People. I am, &c.,

ROBT. H. MORRIS.

Indorsed,

Copy to Gov. Sharpe, Nov'r 22d, 1755.

Gov. Morris to Commodore Spry, 1755.

Sir,

I take the first opportunity of acknowledging the Receipt of your favor of the 21st Oct'r.

I am obliged to you for your informing me of the state & nature of your command, * * & you may depend on it, that I will take the most early opportunity of communicating to you any intelligence, that I may receive, & shall be glad to concert any Measures with you that may be thought most desirable for His Majesty's Service, the Security of these Colonies, or for the distressing of the common Enemy.

I think proper to acquaint you, that if you should want Supplies of any Provisions or other kind for your Fleet, you may gett them furnished from this Province upon a very short notice.

I have received orders from His Majesty by the Secretary of State, to settle a Correspondence with whatever Officer Admiral Boscawen should leave, to command his Majesty's several Ships that are stationed at the different Colonys of North America.*

Philada. 22d Nov., 1755,

Comodore Spry.

Indorsed,

Dft. Letter to Comodore Spry, Nov'r 22d, 1755.

* See Colon. Rec. Vol. VII. 129.

Gov. Morris to Gov. Belcher, 1755.

Sir,

I have only to forward the inclosed, which came to me from Gov. Dinwiddie, and to inform your Excellency that all my endeavours to perswade the Assembly of this Province to come into measures for the common defence of the Inhabitants, have proved ineffectual. They have indeed sent me such a Militia Bill as never was thought of in any other Country, and I am affraid was intended to answer no purpose but to amuse the people, who begin to complain of being left exposed to the cruelties of their savage Enemys, in which I must think they have too much reason. Governor Lawrence has sent me about eight hundred Neutral French, who I am at a loss how to dispose of, and beg your Excellency's thoughts upon the Head, if they were dangerous at Nova Scotia, will they not be more so here? while the Indians & French are invading us in all parts to whom they may go with intelligence, or with the aid of the German and Irish Roman Catholicks in this and the neighbouring Province, foment some comotions to favour the French designs.

I am, &c.

Philada., 22d Nov., 1755,

Directed.—Gov. Belcher.

Indorsed.

Dft. Letter to Gov. Belcher, Nov. 22d, 1755.

R. Holt to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Sir:

At The Sessions of Assembly, Lately Held at New Castle, your Honour was Pleased to Signify to the Representatives of Sussex, your Early and Affectionate Care for the Protection & Defence of This Frontier County, which is Scituate, Partly on the Atlantick Ocean, Partly on the Bay of Delaware; And at the Same Time was so Kind as to Generously Offer, That you would Sollicit our most Gracious Sovereign to Supply us with Some Cannons From His Royal Artillery Stores: Provided, we would Build Proper Batterys to Place them on.

This Beneficence of your Honour Hath Been Communicated to the Magistracy, the Grand Jurors, and many of the Principal Inhabitants, who Expressed much Satisfaction & Gratitude on its Being made Known to Them. And it is From Their joint request, as well as From a Fervent Desire, to be as Serviceable to the Crown and usefull to the Publick, as in my Small Sphere of actions I Pos-

sibly Can, That at Present moves me, to give y^r Honour the following Trouble: Namely, to Supplicate His Majesty for Twelve Peices of Ordnance For the use and Defence of this Part of His British Dominions; And if Through His Extensive Royal Grace, Paternal Favour and Goodness, They be Granted of the Sizes below mentioned, and when brought over Sea, are suitably Mounted and Guarded by the inhabitants of this Community; It is generally thought that with such an aid & assistance, we can Prevent any Privateers laying in the road of Port Lewes, as also the Enemys making a descent on us in Boats or other small Craft.

Sir, inroads and invasions from the French Kings' subjects and their Savage Allies, horrid and inhuman Barbarity, Devastations and Slaughters, by them committed on the back Inhabitants are almost daily sounded in our Ears; and these alarms ought (in my humble opinion,) to stir up every man of us to be upon our Guard, for, on the one Hand, should a Land Army come against us we must face them, or be Driven into the adjacent waters, on the other, should War be declared between Great Britain and France, as we have grounds to Conjecture it is, or soon will, we may Probably be placed between two Fires, from which dangerous situations nothing but the Aid of the Crown, Vigilance of its Ministers, true Valour & Fortitude among our selves, joined to prudent Counsells; And these several human means, Influenced and blessed by the Supreme Disposer of all Events, could deliver us.

Sir, this Letter is Committed to the Care of Capt. David Hall, who will wait upon y^r Honour with it, and bring down any Commands that you may Please to Send by him to Sussex County. I now Crave leave to conclude, & subscribe My self,

Sir, Your Honours
Most Obedient
Humble Servant,

RS. HOLT.

Lewes, November the 24th, 1755.

P. S. As to the Peices of Ordnance, these are the Sizes and Magnitude of those that are deemed to be most Serviceable for the uses intended; the which, when rec^d, will be carefully Preserved, kept in Order, and redelivered whensoever His Majestys or Successors Royal Will and Pleasure shall be made known concerning them.

3 Peices, that will discharge an 18^lb.		Ball.
3 ditto,	12	Ditto.
6 ditto,	6	Ditto.

12 P^s in all.

But the Inhabitants Humbly submit the whole to y^r Honours representations, and will not only Acquiesce, but be thankful.

Indorsed.

Ryves Holt, 24 Nov^r, 1755.

Conrad Weiser to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Honoured Sir:

We the Subscribers hereof, being met together to think on means how to withstand our cruel Indian Enemy, thought fit to acquaint your Honour of the Miserable Condition the Back Inhabitants of these parts are in:

(1st) Since the last cruel Murder committed by the Enemy, most of the People of Tulpenhacon have left their Habitation; Those in Heidelberg moves their Effects. Bethel Township is intirely deserted.

(2d) There is no Order among the People; one cries one Thing, and another another Thing. They want to force us to make a Law, that they should have a Reward for every Indian which they kill; They demanded such a Law of us, with their Guns Cocked, pointing it towards us.

(3d) The People are so incensed, not only against our cruel Enemy the Indians, but also (We beg leave to inform your Honour,) against the Governor and Assembly, that we are afeard they will go down in a Body to Philadelphia and comit the vilest Outrages. They say they will rather be hanged than to be butchered by the Indians, as some of their Neighbours have been lately, and the Poverty that some are in is very great.

(4) Yesterday we sent out about Seventy men to the mountains to take Possession of several Houses, and to range the Woods along the mountain in Berks County, on the West Side of Schuylkill. The same Number are sent to the back Parts of Lancaster County, we Promised them two Shillings ℔ Day, two Pounds of Bread, two Pound of Beaff, and a Jill of Rum a Day, and Amunition, and that for forty Days, or till we shall receive your Honours Order. We persuaded ourselves Your Honour will not leave us in the Lurch; We must have done such a Thing or else leave our Habitation. If no worse: and all this would not do, we and others of the Freeholders have been Obliged to promise them a Reward of four Pistoles for every Enemy Indian man they should kill. Many Things more we could mention, but we dont care to Trouble your Honour any Farther, do therefore conclude, and beg leave to Subscribe ourselves,

Honoured Sir,

your very humble Servants,

CONRAD WEISER,
EMANUEL CARPENTER,
ADAM SIMON RUHM.

P. S. I cannot forbear to acquaint your Honour of a certain Circumstance of the late unhappy Affair: One ..... Kobel, with his Wife and eight children, the eldest about fourteen Years and the youngest fourteen Days, was flying before the Enemy, he carying one, and his Wife and a Boy another of the Children, when they

were fired upon by two Indians very nigh, but hit only the Man upon his Breast, though not Dangerously. They, the Indians, then came with their Tomhacks, knocked the Woman down, but not dead. They intended to kill the Man, but his Gun (though out of order so that he could not fire) kept them off. The Woman recovered so farr, and seated herself upon a Stump, with her Babe in her Arms, and gave it Suck; and the Indians driving the Children together, and spoke to them in High Dutch, *be still we wont hurt you.* Then they struck a Hatchit into the Womans Head, and she fell upon her Face with her Babe under her, and the Indian trod on her Neck and tore off the Scalp. The Children then run: four of them were scalped, among which was a Girl of Eleven Years of Age, who related the whole Story; of the scalped, two are alive and like to do well. The Rest of the Children ran into the Bushes and the Indians after them, but our People coming near to them, and hallowed and made noise; The Indians Ran, and the Rest of the Children were saved. They ran within a Yard by a Woman that lay behind an Old Log, with two Children; there was about Seven or Eight of the Enemy.

I am,

Honoured Sir,

your Obedient,

C. WEISER.

I intend to Send a Wagon down to Philadelphia for Blankits and other Necessaries for the People, on their Guard under the mountain, and I hope it will be then in your Honours Power to supply us.*

Directed.

To the honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Governor of the Province of Pensilvania, in Philadelphia.

Indorsed.

Conrad Weiser.

Reced 24th, Nov^{r}, 1755.

Gov. Morris to Timothy Horsfield, 1755.

Sir:

Your Letter of the 26th Instant enclosing the Original Letter of Mr. Martin Mack, to Mr. Spangenburg, dated the 20th Instant, and an Extract from it in English delivered to me this morning. On the 26th Instant I receivd Mr. Parsons's Lre, with David Ziesbergers Deposition of ye 22^{d} Instant, & your Lre to him of the same date. It gives me great concern to see that a few merciless Savages can by reason of the defenceless state of the Province, perpetrate such hor-

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. VI., p. 729.

rid cruelties and murders on poor innocent people, living peacefully in their habitations, and before any assistance can be given them make their escape with Impunity, and go on, to repeat the same wicked acts at some other place. I approve the Steps you have taken, and heartily wish the People who came so readily on the first Alarm had been able to come up with the Indians, and have either prevented their Execution of their horrid Purposes or engaged and overcame them in their Retreat.

I see ye Brethren have been put to great Expence on this Occasion, but as a Law is now made granting Fifty-Five Thousand Pounds to the Kings uses, and Mr. Penn has made a new Gift of five Thousand Pounds towards the Defence of the Province. I am in hopes such a Plan of Operations will be concerted in connection with the Gentlemen apointed by the Act to dispose of the money granted, as will defend the Country and render it unnecessary for private Persons to advance their own Fortunes for the publick safety. I can give no directions at present, but as soon as I have concluded on the Measures proper to be taken to secure the Frontiers, I shall make my orders publick. I thank you for the Intelligence you have *been so kind as to* give me from time to time, and desire you will continue to send me all the Information you can procure, of every matter that occurs wch can any way concern the public. My humble service to Mr. Spangenburg. I am,

Philada. 29th Novr. 1755.

Timothy Horsfield Esquire.

Indorsed.

Dft. of a letter to Timothy Horsfield, Esqr. Novr. 29th, 1755.

Gov. Belcher to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Sir:

I have duly received Your Honour's Favours of the 17th & 22d Inst; and I thank you very kindly, for the early Intelligence you give me, of the Enemies having already pass't the Susquehannah, and had fallen upon Tulpachochin in Pennsylvania; & that these things notwithstanding, Your Assembly seem still as deaf as Adders, to the Defence of the King's Honour and Interest, & to the safety and Welfare of the poor People; if things go on much longer, in this Way, it must bring fatal Ruin and Destruction, upon the fine Province of Pennsylvania.

I am, Sir, truly surprised how it cou'd ever enter into the Thoughts of those, who had the ordering of the French Neutrals, or rather Traitors & Rebels to the Crown of Great Britain, to direct any of

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. VI., p. 736, 756.

them into these Provinces, where we have already too great a Number of Foreigners for our own good and safety, I think they shoud have been transported directly to old France, & I intirely coincide with Your Honour, that these People wou'd readily join with the Irish Papists &c., to the Ruin and Destruction of the King's Colonies, & shoud any of the attempt to Land here, I shoud think in Duty to the King & to His good People, under my Care to do all in my Power to crush an Attempt. I respectfully salute you & am,

Sir,
Your Honour's
Most obedient &
most humble Servt;
J. BELCHER.

Elizª Town, (N. J.)
Novr 25, 1755.

I pray Your Honour to let the Inclosed be put into the readiest Canal to find its Way to Govr. Dinwiddie*.

Directed.
L. Govr Morris.
Indorsed.
Gov. Belcher.

George Stevenson to R. Peters, 1755.

Dr Sir:

As the Bearer carries the same News to you which he brought to me, 'tis needless to say any thing about that.

We have sent 53 Men, well filed, from this Town last Monday, 2 o'clock P. M. & a Doctor, some Medicines & what Ammunition we could spare to Tobª Hendrix's to join the main Body of English Tories on the most needful Part of the Frontiers, Mr. Adlum is with them, Mr. Hamilton is gone towards Conigogeeg last Sunday with a Compaᵧ.

Mr. Bay yesterday with & at the Head of another. We are all aloft and such as have Arms hold themselves ready, but alas they are few in Number; 40 Men came here yesterday willing to defend, but had but 3 guns & no Ammunition, a could get none here, therefore went home again.

We stay all here yet, how long God knows, 6 Familys fled from their Homes, Dist. about 15 miles viz: Canewago last Night, the last came into Town about Day Break This Morning. I am determined to stay & by the Assistance of Mr. Lispy & the other Jus-

* See Col. Rec. Vol. VI, p. 663, p. 712, 729, 751.

tices, on the spot Spirit up the People & keep 'em together (if possible,) till I hear from the Government.

A few of us have pledged our Credit for publick services, if we are encourag'd we will stand till we are cut off, if not or if no News comes to us (wch we shall construe as discouragemt,) some of us are bound to the lower Parts of Maryland immediately, if not scalpd by the way.

Herewith you have another of our Petitions to the Assembly, all I shall say about it is that the bigest Part of its Signers are Menonists, who live about 15 miles westward of York.

Please to deliver it to the Assembly, the Express waits which hastens me to the only agreeable Part of my Letter, to my self & that is that in Peace or War, Comfort or Distress, I am,

Dr Sr, with great Esteem,

yr most obedient

Hble Servt,

GEO. STEVENSON.

York, 11 o'clock, A. M. Wednesday, 5th Novr.

Mr. Peters.

Tell Hannan we are all Well.

Indorsed.

Geo. Stevenson,

William Parsons to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Sir,

The inclosed Deposition was made by one of the Moravian Brethren sent here for that Purpose by Mr. Horsfield. Immediately upon this Information, Mr. Martin and I sent over the River to Coll. John Anderson,* desiring him to order about 100 of his Regiment to our Assistance, and those are the Men referred to in Mr. Horsfield's Letter inclosed. The very bad Weather we had on Sunday Morning prevented their marching 'till noon that Day, or else they would have been at Gnadenhuten last night. I have dispatched Persons every where amongst the lower Inhabitants to alarm them and to hasten them to come to our Assistance. In this poor little Town we are without Men and without Arms to oppose the Enemy, and if they should gain Possession either of this place, or of Bethlehem or Nazareth, it will be impossible to remove them without a great and regular Force. I thought it my Duty to give your Honour this Information by an Express the very Minute that I received Mr. Horsfield's Letter; And to entreat your Honor if it be

* See Col. Rec., Vol. VI., p. 737.

possible to order us a Supply of Arms and Ammunition immediately, or I am afraid it will be quite too late.

I am, Sir,
Your Honour's most obedient,
humble Servant,
WM. PARSONS.

Easton, Novr. 25th, 1755.

Directed,

To the Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esquire, Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania, &c. For his Majesty's Service.

℘ John Weaver.

Indorsed.

Wm. Parsons to Govr. Morris, Novr. 25th, 1755.

Militia Law, Passed November 25, 1755.

An Act for the better ordering and regulating Such as are willing and desireous to be United for Military Purposes within this Province.

Whereas, this Province was Settled by (and a Majority of the Assembly's have ever since been) of the People called Quakers, who, tho' they do not as the World is now Circumstanc'd, condemn the Use of Arms in others, yet are principled against bearing Arms Themselves. And to make any Law to compel them thereto against their Consciences, would not only be to Violate a Fundamental in our Constitution, and be a direct breach of our Charter of Priviledges, but would also in Effect be to commence Persecution against all that part of the Inhabitants of the Province; And for them by any Law to Compel others to bear Arms and Exempt themselves, would be inconsistent and Partial. Yet, for as much as by the General Toleration and Equity of our Laws, great Numbers of People of other Religious Denominations are come among us who are under no such Restraint, some of whom have been Disciplined in the Art of War, and Conscientiously think it their Duty to fight in defence of their Country, their Wives, their Families, and Estates, and such have an equal Right to Liberty of Conscience with others. And Whereas, a great number of Petitions from the several Counties of this Province have been presented to this House, setting forth That the Petitioners are willing to defend Themselves and their Country, and desirous of being formed into Regular Bodies

for that purpose, Instructed and Disciplined under proper Officers with suitable and Legal Authority, representing withall that unless Measures of this kind are taken, so as to Unite them together, Subject them to due Command and thereby give them Confidence in each other, they cannot Assemble to oppose the Enemy without the utmost danger of exposing themselves to Confusion and Distruction. And Whereas, the Voluntary Assembling of great Bodies of Armed Men from different parts of the Province on any Occasional Alarm, whether true or false, as of late hath happen'd without call or Authority from the Government, and without due Orders and directions among themselves, may be attended with Danger to our Neighbouring Indian Friends and Allies, as well as to the Internal Peace of the Province. And Whereas, the Governour hath frequently recommended it to the Assembly, that in Prepairing and passing a Law for such purposes, they should have a due regard to Scrupulous and Tender Consciences, which cannot be done where Compulsive means are Used to force men into Military Service. Therefore, as we represent all the People of the Province, and are Composed of Members of different Religious Persuasions, We do not think it reasonable that any should thro' a want of legal powers be in the least restrain'd from doing what they Judge it their Duty to do for their own Security and the publick good; We in Compliance with the said Petition and recommendations do offer it to the Governour to be Enacted. And be it Enacted by the Honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., with the King's Royal approbation, Lieutenant Governor under the Honourable Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, Esq^rs., true & absolute Proprietaries of the Province of Pennsylvania, and of the Counties of New Castle, Kent, and Sussex, upon Delaware, by and with the advice and Consent of the Representatives of the Freemen of the said Province in General Assembly met, and by the Authority of the same, That from and after the Publication of this Act it shall and may be lawfull for the Freemen of the Province to form themselves into Companies, as heretofore they have used in time of War without Law, and for each Company by Majority of Votes in the way of Ballot to chuse its own Officers, to wit: a Captain, Lieutenant and Ensign, and present them to the Governor or Commander in Chief for the time being for his approbation, which Officers so Chosen, if approved and Commission'd by him, shall be the Captain, Lieutenant & Ensign of each Company respectively according to their Commissions, and the said Companies being divided into Regiments by the Governor or Commander in Chief, it shall and may be lawfull for the Officers so Chosen and Commissioned for the several Companies of each Regiment to meet together, and, by Majority of Votes in the way of Ballot, to chuse a Colonel, Lieutenant Colonel, and Major for the Regiment, and present them to the Governor or Commander in Chief for his Approbation, which Officers so Chosen, if approved and Commissioned by him, shall be the Colonel, Lieutenant Colonel, and Major of the

Regiment, according to their Commissions during the Continuance of this Act. Provided always, that if the Governor or Commander in Chief shall not think fit to grant his Commission to any Officer so first chosen and Presented, it shall and may be lawfull for the Electors of such Officers to chuse two other Persons in his stead and present them to the Governor or Commander in Chief, one of whom at his pleasure shall receive his Commission and be the Officer as aforesaid.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That as soon as the said Companies and Regiments are formed, and their Officers Commissioned as aforesaid, it shall and may be lawfull to and for the Governor or Commander in Chief, by and with the advice and consent of the Colonels, Lieutenant Colonels and Majors of all the Rigement, being for that purpose by him Called and Convened, or by and with the advice and consent of a Majority of the said Officers that shall be met and Present together on such Call, to form, make and Establish Articles of War, for the better Government of the Forces that shall be under their Command, and for Bringing Offenders against the same to Justice; and to erect and constitute Courts Martial, with power to hear, try and determine any Crime or Offences by such Articles of War, and inflict penalties by sentence or judgment of the same, on those who shall be subject thereto, in any place within this Province. Which Articles of War, when made as aforesaid, shall be printed and distributed to the Captains of the several Companies, and by them distinctly read to their respective Companies, and all and every Captain, Lieutenant, Ensign or other Freeman, who shall, after at least three days Consideration of the said Articles, voluntary sign the same, in presence of some one Justice of the Peace, acknowledging his having perused or heard the same distinctly read, and that he has well considered thereof, and is willing to be bound and Govern'd thereby, and promises obedience thereto, and to his Officers accordingly, shall thenceforth be deemed well and duely bound to the observance of the said Articles, and to the duties thereby required, a subject to the Pains, Penalties, Punishments and Forfeitures, that may therein be appointed for disobedience and other offences.

Provided always, that the Articles so to be made and established, shall contain nothing repugnant, but be as near as possible Conformable to the Military Laws of Great Brittain, and to the Articles of War made and established by his Majesty, in Pursuance of the last Act of Parliament for punishing Mutiny and Desertion, the different Circumstances of this Province compared with Great Britain, and of a Voluntary Militia of Freemen, compared with Mercenary standing Troops, being duely weighed and maturely considered.

Provided also, that nothing in this Act shall be understood or construed to give any Power or Authority to the Governor or Commander in Chief, and the said officers, to make any Articles or Rules that shall in the least affect those of the Inhabitants of the Province who

are conscienously scrupulous of bearing arms, either in their Liberties, Persons or Estates, nor any other Persons of what Persuasion or Denomination soever, who have not first voluntarily signed the said Articles, after due consideration as aforesaid. Provided also, that no Youth under the age of twenty-one years, nor any bought Servant or Indented apprentice, shall be admitted to enroll himself, or be Capable of being Enrolled in the said Companies or Regiments, without the consent of his or their Parents or Guardians, Masters or Mistresses, in writing under their hands first had and obtained.

Provided also, that no Enlistment or Enrollment of any person in any of the Companies or Regiments to be formed & raised as aforesaid, shall protect such person in any suit or civil action brought against him by his Creditors or others, except during his being in Actual Service, in Field or Garrison, nor from a Prosecution for any offence committed against the Laws of this Province. Provided also, that no Regiment, Company or Party of Volunteers, shall by virtue of this Act, be compelled or led more than three days march beyond the inhabited parts of this Province, nor detained longer than three Weeks in any Garrison, without an Express engagement for that purpose first voluntarily entered into & subscribed by every man so to march or remain in Garrison.

This Act to continue in force untill the Thirtieth day of October next, and no longer.

["Signed by order of the House.

ISAAC NORRIS,
Speaker.

I assent to this bill enacting the same, & order it to be enrolled.
ROB. H. MORRIS.

By his Honours command,
RICH'D PETERS,
Secretary."*]

Nov. 25, 1755.

Indorsed,

Copy. An Act for the better ordering & regulating such as are willing and desirous to be United for Military Purposes within this Province.

* The portions embraced in brackets, are taken from the recorded Laws, A. Vol. III. pp. 342, 346, in the Secretary's Office.

† See Colon. Rec., Vol. VI., p. 534, 539, 598, 680, 735,

Gov. Morris to Gov. Sharpe, 1755.

Sir,

I have the Honor of your Excellency's of ye 20 Instant,* and am sorry you have been obliged to stay so long for Gen. Shirley, but hope the Company of the many agreeable Ladys in New York have in some measure made amends for the want of Business. I am sure I have wished myself with you ever since you went from hence, not only on acc^t of the pleasure I always enjoy in your Company, but to be free from the plague of having to do with an obstinate Assembly, who seem to have no regard for the safety of the Province.

The Indians have attacked and distroyd one of the Moravian Settlements near the forks of Delaware, called Mahonoy, and have put to death all the people except two. This will make it very difficult for me to attend the Genl at New York, as I must try every thing to induce the Assembly to provide for the defence of the Province, but at present can't say whether any thing will be done or not. They have indeed passed a Militia Bill, but with no other view but that I should refuse it and then to raise a clamour against me on that acc't, but as it is of such a nature as cannot be carryd into execution, I have disappointed them, and given my consent to it.

I have wrote to the Gen'l not to depend upon my being at York, but will however strain hard for the pleasure of spending at least one day there, tho' I dare not be too sanguine in my hopes of doing so, lest I should be disappointed.

I am very glad the French near Johnson, are not so numerous as they were represented, if they were, I know not in what manner we should resist them. I wish you health and pleasure.

Nov. 26th, 1755,

Gov'r Sharp.

Indorsed,

Dft. of a Letter to Gov'r Sharp, Nov. 26th, 1755.

Timothy Horsfield to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Bethlehem, Novr 26th, 1755.

May it Please Your Honour:

Sir,

I don't doubt Your Honour's having already Receiv'd the Melancholy news of the Distress we are in, in these back Parts, by the Incursions of our barbarous Indian Enemies, as Mr. Parsons has inform'd me that he has sent Your Honour the Substance of my Letter to him by an Express, which is the Reason why I thought Proper to deferr the sending your Honour a 2d Express till such Time as I could

* See p. 507.

fully inform myself of the Particulars of that most Barbarous Murther.

And now I must beg Leave previously to acquaint Your Honour of the Steps I have taken in these Affairs, from the first Intimation I had of any Danger approaching Us, Which was by a Letter the Rev^d Mr. Spangenberg receiv'd from Mr. Martin Mack at Gnaden-Hütten, the 21st Instant, (An Extract of which in the English Tongue I now Inclose, together with the German Original.) I then immediately (ye 22d) dispatch'd a Messenger with said Letter to Mr. Parsons, with the Person who had brought it from Gnaden-Hütten, to give him what further Information he could, concerning some other Reports he had heard of a Body of Indians being likely to fall in upon the White People, &c., Desiring at the same Time, that as I was then Indispos'd, we might have a Meeting of our Bro^r Justices to give a proper Answ^r to this Letter, and appoint proper Persons to conduct the Indians Safe to Your Honour. Upon this the People in Easton & the Jerseys were Alarm'd, & got together to march for the Defence of the Back Settlements. Sunday, ye 23d, being a very wet, Stormy Day, none of the Justices came, nor any of the People to our Assistance till the Evening, when Messrs Gordon, Vernon, &c., from Easton, with a Company of about 50 or 60 Men from the Jerseys, under Col. James Anderson, with Mr. Pidgeon & others from Trenton, &c., whom we Quarter'd here, & entertain'd in the best Manner we could.

On Monday, ye 24th, I dispatch'd a Messenger to Gnaden-Hütten wth an Answ^r to Martin Mack, that we would prepare a Convoy for the Indians according to their Request. Ab^t 8 o'clock Col. Anderson & his Company march'd out of Bethlehem for Gnaden-Hütten, And a number of People from other Parts of the County follow'd them the same Day, many of Whom we Supply'd with Powder & Ball. The 25th, In the Morn^g about 3 o'clock, I was call'd up, the Messenger being return'd from Gnaden-Hütten with the News Mr. Parsons has inform'd Your Honour of as above. Upon which I sent Letters Out to alarm the Country, & People came from all Quarters, in forwarding whom I did all that lay in my Power. Towards Night, 8 of the White People, & between 30 & 40 of the Indians, Men, Women, & Children, who had made their Escape in ye Night, (from Gnaden-Hütten,) arrived here, but could not give us any just Account of what had happen'd, the Murthers being committed on the other side of the River near a Mile Distant. The 26th, Cap^n Wilson, of Bucks County, with his Company of 60 or 70 Persons, who quarter'd here over Night, set out this Morning towards the Mountains as did several other Parties from Morning till Night. In the Evening came Jos^ph Sturges, Geo. Partch & his Wife, the Persons who had escaped out of the Flames from the Fury of the Indians, from whom I rec'd the following Acc^t of that most inhuman & Shocking Affair, vizt., That Monday, the 24th Instant, an Hour before Sun Set, Geo. Custard, with two others of the Neighbours, came to Ma-

hony, (the Place the Murther was Committed at,) and inform'd them that in the Evening they might Expect a Number of Arm'd Men to be with them all Night. That about 6 o'clock, while they were sitting at Supper, (14 in Number,) they heard the Dogs bark very much, & Concluding it was the People Custard had inform'd them of, Jo^nh Struges & 3 more got up to receive them, but on opening the Door 4 Guns were immediately discharg'd in upon them, which kill'd one of them immediately, and one of the Balls graz'd on Sturges's Chin & set his Hair on Fire; then 4 or 5 more fir'd, & so a third Time, when the Indians immediately rush'd in upon them, & kill'd some of them on the Spot, the rest run into an Adjoining Room, from whence G. Partch escap'd thro' a Window, & meeting Senseman, who was coming down to see what was the matter, took him along with him; but Sturges, with 3 Men and 3 Women & a Child got up Stairs, at the Head of which was a Trap Door, wch they shut down & secur'd in the best manner they Could, the Indians often Attempting to force it open, & finding they could not, fir'd in upon them thro' the Ceiling & Roof of the House, but without Effect, upon which they set fire to the House. Sturges watching his Opportunity, (as he thought while they were Scalping those below,) Jump'd out at the Gable-End Window, & Partch's Wife following him, they both made their Escape. Worbas being Sick in another House, & seeing all this with an Indian Posted as a Guard at his Door, also made his Escape thro' a Window, at the Time the Indian went to the rest of his Company, who he believes Did not exceed 12. He & Sturges both believes they were Delawares, & that one of them had a French Match Coat on. Partches' Wife being newly come to the Place, & not knowing the Woods, crept at a small Distance & hid herself behind a Stump, & saw Fabricius, who jump'd out of the Window after her, Shot & Scalp'd, & otherwise inhumanly abus'd: the rest perish'd in the Flames. She saw them likewise set fire to the Barn & Stables, with 40 Head of Cattle, besides 5 Horses & 3 Colts, as also the rest of the Houses, (one of which was very large,) & after they had took what they pleas'd, & burnt the rest, she saw them go to the Spring House & feast, which was about 12 o'clock at Night, & when they had done they set the Spring House on Fire & went their Way. The Next Day Partch & Sturges Return'd with Some Arm'd People & found Partch's Wife, and also found a Blanket & a Hat with a Knife stuck thro' Them upon the Stump of a Tree, Which I have heard is a Signal among the Indians, "Thus much we have done & Are able to do More."

The Number of them that are Kill'd are, 7 Men, 3 Women & a Child, vizt:

Gottlieb Andreas, his Wife, & Child of About a Y^r Old.

Martin Nitchman & his Wife.

Catherine Senseman, the Wife of Joachim Senseman.

Christian Fabricius.

GEO. SWEIGART.
LEONARD KATERMEYER.
MARTIN PRESSER, &
FREDRICK LESLEY.

For my Part, I hardly know what to say to Your Honour upon these deplorable Circumstances, our Country being in the utmost Confusion Imaginable; One flying here, the other there for Safety. Men enough are to be had, who appear willing to go in Defence of themselves & Country, but being under no Command, & not having Persons of Skill & Judgment to Order & Dispose them, I Expect little or no Service to be done by them, tho' the Expence & loss of Time is great; & unless some Speedy Measures be fallen upon to stop the Depredations & Incursions of these Blood Thirsty Villains, I see nothing but the inevitable Ruin of our Country, as 40 or 50 of these Banditti, or Robbers, (for I look upon them in no other light,) are able in their Skulking Manner, to Disturb the Peace of a Whole Province, & baffle the Attempts of Thousands, who in this Way may be sent against them. I verily believe, at the most moderate Computation, the Brethren have lost upwards of £1500 by this Calamity, & the Expence they are daily at, in Victualling the People, with their Horses, who pass & repass thro' Bethlehem, &c., & Supplying the People with Powder & Ball, wch they require of them, is greater than they Possibly can Support under, considering the greatness of their Familys, the Badness of the Crops, & what a quantity of Grain they must necessarily buy for their Subsistance. I beg Yr Honour will please to take these things into Your Consideration, & Favour Me with Your Directions how to Conduct myself at this Critical Juncture, & to order in what Manner the People are to be Supplied with Arms & Ammunition, as they mostly Address themselves to Me.

I am
Your Honour's
Most Obedt humble Servant.
TIMO. HORSFIELD.

P. S.—Since Writing the above, an Indian match Coat, a Blanket, a Striped Shirt, & a Knife, wch were found near the Place where the Murther was Committed, have been brought in.

Directed.

To the Honourable Robt Hunter Morris, Esqr,
Governour of the Province of Pensylvania.

Indorsed.

Justice Horsfield's Lre. to the Governour, 26 Novr, 1755, delivered 29th Novr.

Gov. Morris to Gen. Shirley, 1755.

Sir:

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellencys several favours of 11th & 15th instant. That relative to the things requested for the securitie of this Province, I shall do myself the honour to make a particular answer to, and hope when you consider the nature of this government and its consequence to the crown and nation, you will afford us some relief; especially, as without such relief it will be disabled from furnishing the necessary Carriages and Provisions towards an Expedn against fort Duquesne in the next summer, which you seem to think will be undertaken.

It would give me very great pleasure to meet you in the Congress you have summond at New York, not only to assist you in any thing within the reach of my abilities, but to congratulate you upon your safe return from so fateguing a campaign. But the daly accounts I have of the cruelties committed on the Borders, and the necessity I am under of trying every method for the relief of the Inhabitants, will hardly admit me to leave the Province: which, however, if there is a possibility of doing, I will try to be with you.

This morning an Express came to town with an acct that the Indians had cut off a moravian settlement not far from the River Delaware, where they distroyd all the Inhabitants but two, and I am in hourly Expectation of hearing of more mischief in that quarter.

The Proprs have sent me over an order for five thousand pounds;* this money which they give, freely towards the Expences that they thought would attend the defeat of Gen1 Braddock, for it was immediately upon receiving the acct of that affair that they dispatched this order. But you are sensible this sum will go but little way towards the defence of a Province circumstanced as this is, and whether the assembly will make any addition to it, I can't as yet say. I am

Indorsed.

Dft. of a Letter to Gen1 Shirley, Novr 26th, 1755.

Gov. Morris to Gen. Shirley, 1755.

Permit me, good sir, to offer you my hearty condolence upon the death of my poor friend Jack, whose worth I admired, and feel for him more than I can Express. His good sence and sweetness of temper made him generally beloved, and few men of his age had so many friends. Your affliction is truly great, to be deprived of two such sons in one year, is a loss uncommonly heavy, and would bear down any man not fortified with the same firmness of mind, and

* See T. Penn's letter, Col. Rec., Vol. VI., p. 731.

resignation to the divine will that you are. As my friendship to you will ever make me anxious for your family, you will excuse me if upon this melancholy occasion I mention my friend Tom, your now only Hope; can you not for him keep some promotion vacant, appointing somebody to act in it for the present, and by the secretary of war desire that his majesty will be graciously pleased to appoint him to such vacancy. This is what your services to the Crown merits, and what I am persuaded will be readily granted. If I am wrong in this, I beg you would attribute it to the warmth of my friendship for you and your family, and be assured that I am most sincerely & affectionately

Novr 27, 1755.

Indorsed.

Df^t to Genl Shirley, upon the Death of his son John.*

Gov. Morris to Gen. Shirley, 1755.

Novr 17th, 1755.

Dear Sir,

Since writing the Letter herewith I have received Intelligence that The Indians have cross'd the Sasquehanna, and fallen upon the inhabitants to the Southward of the Mountains at and near a place called Tulpihockin, about sixty miles from hence, where they had, when the express came away, Burnt several houses and killed such of the inhabitants as could not escape from them. The settlement they are now distroying is one of the finest in this Province, the Lands are very Rich and well improved. My Assembly have now been sitting ever since the 3^d Instant, but have done nothing for the defence of the Province, nor raised any supplys. The Bill they have proposed for that purpose, being of the same kind of one I had before refused to pass and which they know I have no power by my Commission to pass it. Such a Conduct while the Country is bleeding, seems to me to merit the severest censure.

Indorsed.

Novr 17th, 1755. Df^t to Genl Shirley.

* His son William was killed in Braddock's defeat.—See Col. Rec. Vol. VI., p. 489.

Gov. Morris to Sir Chas. Hardy, 1755.

Sir:

It would give me very great pleasure to wait on you at New York and to assist at a Congress that seems so very necessary for his Majesty's service and the general safety of these Provinces, as that Gen[l] Shirley has appointed to be held the beginning of next month, But I am much affraid that it will not be in my power to leave this Province in its present Circumstances, for tho' I have not the power of doing any good, yet while the Assembly is sitting and the back inhabitants are bleeding, I think it my duty to try every means for their Protection.

A Government, such as this is, where the members of the Legislature are or pretend to be principled against doing the dutys of their station, I believe was never known nor heard of before, and it is rather a matter of surprise than otherwise, that it has subsisted so long. They have at last pass'd a Militia Bill, but in such a shape that it is impossible to carry it into execution, and indeed it was only intended to increase the Clamour against me, as they took it for granted I should refuse to consent to it, but I have disappointed them, and pass'd it, and by that means have in some measure opened the peoples Eyes, who now begin to see their Error in chosing Quakers into the Assembly.

The Prop[rs] upon the first news of Gen[l] Braddock's Defeat have sent me an Order for five thousand pounds this currency, towards defraying the Expenses that would be necessary upon that occasion for the defence of the Province. But this sum, tho' considerable for them to give, will go but little way in the defence of a Province, with so extended a frontier as this Has.

I have this morning received accounts that the Indians has destroyed one of the Moravian settlements, near Delaware River, called Mahoney, where they killed all the inhabitants but two, and I expect further accounts of their progress in that quarter, Tho' a detachment of one of the Jersey Regiments of Militia marched against them. From the regularity of the motions of those Indians from Potomack to Delaware, along the back of the Mountains, which they have seldom crossed, I am fearfull they will go along the same Chain of Mountains through Jersey, and into your Government, and unless the people living near those Mountains are very watchfull I apprehend they will be in a danger of being surprised and Cut off.

I thought it my duty to mention this to you that you might have time to consider it and give directions accordingly.

I hope this will find you safely returned to New York in health, after the fatigues you have had to the Northward.

Indorsed.

Df[t] of a Letter to S[r] Cha[s] Hardy. Nov[r] 27th, 1755.

Gov. Morris to Gov. Belcher, 1755.

Sir:

I have receivd an Express from the County of Northampton, that the Indians have attackd and destroyd one of the Moravian Settlements, and have put to death all but two, and set the Houses on Fire. As the Indians began their Ravages on the River Patowmec, and have continued them all along that Chain of mountains which cross Delaware and go thro your Province, it is probable they will not stop at that River, but proceed to cut off your Inhabitants that have settled near them, and therefore it may be necessary to put them upon their Guard.

Coll. Anderson has offered our Back Settlers a ready Assistance, and wth the Detachment of his Regiment has marched up to the place where the Attack was made, but I am not yet informed of his Success.

I return you my hearty thanks for the kind Assistances of your Militia. God knows how soon you may want it for your Defence, and if you shall be attacked, I hope such of our Inhabitants as live in your neigbourhood, and have formed themselves into Companies, will assist cheerfully on the first notice.

The Prop^r^ has made a free Gift of £5000 to the Province towards its defence; this he did imediately on the receit of the Acco^ts^ of General Braddock, and it has had this good effect as to induce the Assembly to offer me a Bill for £5000, without taxing the Proprietary Estates, to which I have given my Assent.

Novr 27th, 1755.

Govr Belcher.

Indorsed.

Dft to Govr Belcher, Novr 29th, 1755.

Gov. Morris to John Pownall. 1755.

Philad^a^, Nov. 28, 1755.

Sir:

Ten days ago I was favourd with yours of July ye 15th, Inclosing Heads of Enquiry from the Lords commissioners for trade and Plantations, which I should have answerd by this conveyance, had not the Confusions in this Province, occasiond by the inroads made by the French, Indians, and the sitting of the Assembly employd my whole time. But I beg you will take the trouble to present my Humble duty to their Ldps, and assure them that they shall have the fullest answers to their several Enquirys, that it is in my Power to give.

I am also to acknowledge the receipt of their Lordships commands

signified by your letter of ye 19th of Sep^r, which came to my hands at the same time that the queries did, and to assure you that I shall immediately prepare an exact and particular acct of the several matters their Lordships desire to be informed of, and transmit it without delay.

You will give me leave to observe that as Mr Penn is the Principal governor of this Province; I have transmitted to him from time to time every thing relative to this Province & its defenceless state, of whom their Ldps may be fully informed, should they incline to represent these matters to his majesty before the state I am now preparing shall arrive. I am, sir

Directed,
John Pownal, secretary, to the B^d of trade.

Indorsed,
Df^t. of a letter to Jno. Pownall, Esqr., Novr. 28th, 1755.

Gov. Morris to Earl of Halifax, 1755.

Novr 28th, 1755.

Earl of Hallifax:

My Lord—

I had the Honour to write your L'd'p, in answer to yours by Genl Braddock, since which The affairs in this part of the Continent have taken a very unfortunate turn, as the French have gained to their Interest some tribes of Indians who were formerly friends to the English, and who are now making great inroads into this and the neighbouring Provinces. Tho' I have at last prevailed on the Assembly of this Province to give fifty-five thousand pounds to the King's use, and the Proprietarys have on this occasion given five thousand pounds, yet I am clear of opinion that this Province cannot be properly defended till measures are taken to exclude from the Legislature a set of men who Either are, or pretend to be, principled against defending themselves and their Country.

The French & Indians have already killed & taken a considerable number of the Inhabitants, & have drove above a thousand familys from their Habitations and laid waste a considerable extent of Country which might have been in great measure prevented if the Assembly had done their duty & enabled me to put this Province into a posture of defence.

I have from time to time transmitted to Mr. Penn the state and Condition of this Province, who, I make no doubt, has laid the several matters before your L'd'p and the rest of his Majesty's Ministers.

It would be very Happy for these Colonys and Greatly contribute not only to their own safety, but to the success of any measures that may be carry'd on upon this Continent against the French, if they could be united in such a manner as to act in Conjunction with one another, and Each of them be obliged to Contribute their quota towards the measures necessary for their common securities. The plan of union proposed at Albany, some time ago, appeared to me very inadequate to these Purposes, as by that plan his Majesty & his Ministers were to have less Power in the united Legislature than they have in the several separate ones, which might answer some purposes here, but In my humble opinion would not have answered the Ends of Government, or at all contributed to have kept these Provinces in that dependence upon the Mother Country, so necessary for the Interest of 'em both.

Indorsed—
Dft. of a Letter to the Earl of Hallifax. Novr 28th, 1755.

Gov. Morris to Sir Thomas Robinson, 1755.

Nov. 28, 1755.

Sir,

Since I wrote you on ye 28th of October,* the French Indians have made several Incursions into the settled parts of this Province, have distroyd numbers of the Inhabitants, and laid waste a considerable extent of country. This might in great measure have been prevented, if I could have prevailed on my Assembly to have granted supplys, & enabled me to put the Province into a posture of defence; But there is so great a majority of Quakers in the House, that no warlike preparations are to be expected from them, being as they pretend, contrary to their Principles. However, they have at last granted a supply of fifty-five thousand pounds, and the Proprietors have given five thousand pounds more, and I have passed a Law for emitting the fifty-five thousand pounds in Bills of Credit, which are to be sunk in four yearly payments. The disposition of this money is more clogged than I could wish, and may therefore not be applyd in the best manner, but I am in hopes it will so far answer the ends proposed, as to put the Province into a tolerable posture of defence, and prevent in great measure the future inroads of the Indians. But for want of a well established Regular Militia, it will be very difficult and expensive to defend so extended a frontier as this Province has.

Sr. Thos Robinson.

Indorsed.—Draught Lre. to Sr Tho. Robinson, 28 Novr, 1755.

* See p. 440.

Gov. Morris to Gov. Belcher, 1755.

Decr the 29th, 1755.

Sir:

When I had the Honor to wait on you at Elizth Town, I forgot to mention to your Excellency, that Genl Shirley, upon my representation of the situation of this Province, had ordered the Company of granadiers belonging to the fiftieth regiment and a detachment of the Indept companys, to march into the Province; what makes these troops the more necessary, is the want of a military Law to enforce obedience to the officers, without which, the raising and paying men will have very Little effect; and as I have no reason to expect such a Law from my Assembly in their present temper, I hope to supply that Defect by the Junction of some of the regular troops to those that are raised by the Province. As this detachment will march soon thro' your Excellency's Province, I take the Liberty to request your orders to the proper persons to assist and supply them on their way.

A vessel that arrived on Saturday night from Lisbon, Brings the malancholy account of the distruction of that City by an Earth quake on ye 1st of November; the Palace is destroy'd, but the Royal family being out of town had the good fortune to Escape; thirty thousand people are said to be Kill'd, and the accounts add, that the remaining inhabitants were destroying each other in fighting for what was recover'd from the ruins—the City was set on fire at the time of the shock, and had Burnt nine days when this Vessel came away.

Indorsed.—Decr 29th, 1755, Dft. to Govr Belcher.

Gov. Morris to Gov. Dinwiddie, 1755.

Philadelphia, 29th November, 1755.

Sir,

I am favoured with yours of the 31st October,* and am with You so sensible of the hurt done to his Majesties Service by the Continuance of our disputes, that to put an End to them I have even made Concessions which have exceeded my Powers.

As soon as Mr. Penn received my Letter giving him an Account of the Defeat of General Braddock, he sent me an Order on his Receiver General for Five Thousand Pounds, as a free Gift towards the defence of the Province; this generous Offer I communicated to the Assembly, & thereupon they presented to me & I passed an Act for granting the Sum of Sixty Thousand Pounds to the King's Use; the money is to be struck in a month, & to be sunk in Four Years by a Tax of Six Pence per Pound on all Estates, Real & Per-

* See p. 446.

sonal, and to be disposed of with my Approbation, and not otherwise, by Persons named in the Act; and tho' some of them are not such as I shou'd have chosen, yet as my Predecessor, Mr. Hamilton, and Mr. Mifflin, another Gentleman of the Council, are of the Number, I hope it will be carefully applied, and all done with it that such a Sum of Money can do.

If with this Grant they had made a good Militia Act,* I might have done something towards putting the Country into a Posture of Defence; but as they offered me a senseless, partial and impracticable Bill, rather than have any more disputes with them, and as it was only to continue in Force till next October, I passed it, that Experience may convince them such Bills will do infinitely more harm than good. As it is in the News Papers I shall say no more of it, all may thence see both at home and in the other Colonies, that whilst a majority in Assembly are Quakers, which they now acknowledge has from the beginning been the case, it cannot be expected they will either co-operate with the other Provinces, or defend their own to any material Purpose.

I wish I could gratify you in your Enquiry about Genl. Johnson. He is still at Lake George, & does not, as I hear, proceed in the intended Attack on the French Camp at Ticondarago, where the French are said to be strength'ning themselves. Indeed, if his magazine be not filled with Provisions, the Roads are now become so bad, that they cannot be carried in such Quantities as his march would require. Commissioners are come to Albany from Boston & Connecticut to concert the Destination of their Forces under his Command, so that his future motions will depend on their Resolutions, which I shall communicate to You as soon as I shall be made acquainted with them.

My Heart bleeds for Mr. Shirley. He must be overwhelmed with Grief when he hears of Capt. John Shirley's Death, of which I have an Account by the last Post from New York, where he dyed of a Flux and Fever that he had contracted at Oswego. The Loss of Two Sons in one Campaign scarce admits of Consolation. I feel the Anguish of the unhappy Father, and mix my Tears very heartily with his. I have had an intimate Acquaintance with Both of Them for many Years, and know well their inestimable Value.

Great Disorders reign among the back Inhabitants for want of Discipline, which require me to go to them; but if I can possibly be spared I will attend the Congress, and there make just and full Representations of whatever has fallen under my Notice as well in this as in other Provinces.

I acknowledge the Receit of yours of the 12th Instant by the Return of my Express, and am truly concerned to hear that You have been laid under the disagreeable necessity of dissolving your Assembly at such a dangerous Juncture, when by repeated accounts

* See it, p. 516.

We may expect large Bodies of Indians to fall on the three Provinces at one and the same time, so that if these Distractions continue much longer, the greatest Part of them will be depopulated and the Inhabitants reduced to Want, so as scarce to be able to maintain themselves, much less such as may be sent to their Assistance.

The mischiefs done by these merciless Indians in this Province since my last Letter are inconceivable. All our Settlements contiguous to Maryland, Westward of the Ending of the Temporary Line are broken up, and many of their Houses burned. The same Ravages have been committed in the Big and Little Cove; and then these Savages finding the People there armed and on their march against them, quitted their Depredations on the West Side of Susquehannah, crossed that River and fell on the rich Vale of Tulpyhoccon, murdering and burning Plantations, as low as within Six Miles of Mr. Weiser's House. It is true, on the first alarm multitudes came, some with Arms and some with Pitchforks, enough to have repelled a large Force; but the Savages no sooner saw this than they made off, and have since destroyed a Moravian Settlement, called Gnaden Hüten, situate on one of the Branches of the River Delaware, murdered Ten poor innocent Moravians, and set the House and Barn on Fire. Here again Numbers soon repaired, well armed, and assisted with a Detachment of the Militia from Jersey; On which these Savages moved off, and I imagine We shall hear soon that they are committing their cruel and horrid murders in New Jersey; for they keep all along the same chain of Hills where thay began on Patowmec.

As soon as a Plan of Operations is agreed upon by me and the Committee, I will inform You of it, and if it is such an one as You & Govr. Sharpe can approve, our Operations perhaps may be rendered the more effectual by co-operating together.

I am, &c.

P. S.—I send You some Letters that came to my Hands from England, and also a Paper containing Secret Intelligence of the designs of the Six Nations and other Indians; that Part relating to their attacking the French I do not think true, as I have since had other Accounts that do not mention it; besides the French Seem to be at the bottom of this Scheme. I wish proper methods may be taken to secure the Cherokee Indians, & I think the Gov^rs of the Carolinas should be apprised of this Matter.

Indorsed.—Copy, Govr. Morris's Letter to Govr. Dinwiddie.

Sir Charles Hardy to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Fort George, New York, 30th November, 1755.

Sir:

Yesterday I was favoured with your Letter of the 26th, inclosing two Informations relating to the Incursions of the Indians, in the back Parts of your Provinces. I am extremely concerned to find the Assembly of your Government so averse to making the necessary Provision for their own Defence.

About an hour before I received your Letter, I received an Express from Goshen, that a Body of Indians had done some Mischief at Minisink, (on the controverted Lands between this Province and New Jersey,) and that they were apprehensive of their moving to the back Settlements at Orange Connty. On the first Notice of this Intelligence the Officer commanding the Militia, summoned the different Companies to appear under Arms, and I am informed by the Bearer of the Express that many are assembled, and I trust will oppose the Enemy should they appear in our settlements. The like Measures I believe are pursued in the Government of the Jerseys.

I have this day sent an Express to Genl. Johnson with this Information, and have directed him to send a Message in my Name to the Six Nations, not only to warn them against any attempts that may be made on their Castle, but to require them to send Messages to all the Indians under their Dependence, not to assist or join the French or their Indians, but to take up the Hatchet and assist the English, and to let them know that if they go out a fighting against the English, the six Nations will consider them as Enemies and treat them as Such.

I am sorry we are not like to see you at the Meeting, General Shirley has desired to be held in this city, You may be assured I should have been glad to have made your Residence here agreeable.

I am, Sir,
with great Esteem,
Your most Obedient
and humble servant,
CHAS. HARDY.

Directed.
Governor Morris.

Wm. Parsons to Rich'd. Peters, 1755.

Easton, Novr the 30th, 1755.

R^d Peters, Esqr.:

Sir—

Since writing my last, of the 27th Instant, every thing remains pretty quiet. There has been a report of some Damage being done on the other side the Mountains, beyond Broadheads, but it wants Confirmation. Last Fryday the Jersey People took an Indian Man and brought him to our Goal, and last night about 7 o'clock they brought 15 Indians more, 3 of them were Men and the rest Women and Children. As it was thought unsafe to keep the Indians long in this place, *which might draw a particular Resentment on us from the other Indians when they should hear that we had them here in Goal,* They were this Morning all sent over into the Jerseys, under Convoy of those who brought them to us, with advice to convey them safely to some prison in the lower and more Populous Counties of their own Province. Whether we have done right or no must be left to our Superiors, but the People of the Town were exceedingly dissatisfied at the Indians being brought here, and I do assure you that I find a good deal of Difficulty to keep our People in spirits to which end I am obliged upon every occasion to humour them and to keep them in Temper, and they have been much insulted and put upon by some of the Jersey People from Greenwich, who came in great numbers to feast upon us under pretence of Friendship being too much encouraged therein by a few of our own People, but I have hitherto kept them patient under those Menaces.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient

humble Servant,

WM. PARSONS.

P. S.—If we are furnished with Supplys of Men, Arms, Ammunition and Provisions we shall not be able to hold our Ground.

Directed.

To Richard Peters, Esquire, Secretary of the Province of Pennsylvania.

Indorsed.

Wm. Parsons. 30 Nov^r, 1755. Rece'd Saturday Morn'g by Express, Grace Parsons.

Col. Johnson to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Fort Johnson, Decbr 17th, 1755.

Dear Sir,

I have this Moment the pleasure of yrs, and am much obliged to you for your kind Congratulations.

I had Yesterday the Honor of a few lines from Govr Morris, with Severall Papers relating to the Barbarous proceedings of the Shawanese & Delaware Indians. I have only time to acquaint you that I already Sent Messages to the Six Nations about their Behaviour, & insisted Strenuously on their useing all means possible to check their Vile proceedings. I have also Sent a Message by one of our Indians to the Delawares & Shawanese, forbidding them to Act any more in that Manner at their Peril, but to join Us in ye Spring against the French and their Allies, wch would be more their interest, and greatly more to their credit than what they are at present about; they do not regard truth if they Say I Sent them no Invitation to Join Me, for I Assure you, at the several Meetings last June there were three Delawares present, whom I sent an Interpreter for, and after receiving their Share of the present, they promised to Join me whenever I called, but they did not come at my Invitation Shortly after; however, I have hopes yet of their Reformation, as well as the Shawanese, if I have but time to look into those Matters & am not interrupted by Everry little Trader & Fellow in the Country, as has been the Case, and find is still so; this I am afraid will Stagger the Indians & be of fatal Consequence. Excuse my hurry, wch occasions brevity, being Surrounded by All the Mohawks who came to Condole the Death of my Sister & Brother-in-Law. I propose going soon to York, where I hope to have the pleasure of Seeing You & Saying more.

Mr. Clause is at liberty, and may go to Philadelphia when he will.

I am, with much esteem,
Your most Obedt
Humble Servt,
WM. JOHNSON

Indorsed.—Colt Johnson, 17 Decr, 1755.

Orders to Capt. George Croghan, 1755.

To Capt George Croghan:

Sir,

You are desired to proceed to Cumberland County and fix on proper Places for erecting three Stockadoes, vizt., One back of Patterson's, One upon Kishecoquillas, and one Near Sideling Hill; Each of them Fifty feet Square, with a Block-house on two of the Corners, and a Barrack within, capable of Lodging Fifty Men. You are also desired to agree with some proper Person or Persons to oversee the Workmen at each Place, who shall be allowed such Wages as you shall agree to give, not exceeding one Dollar pr Day, and the Workmen shall be allow'd at the Rate of Six Dollars pr Month, and their Provisions, till the Work is finished. *

JOS. FOX,
JOS. HUGHES,
EVAN MORGAN.

Indorsed.—Orders to George Croghan. Entd.

Gov. Dobbs to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Sir,

I Have your Favour of the 29th ult., and am mightily pleased that you are satisfied with the proceedings of our Assembly, and my Endeavours to promote the Kings Service and the Interest and Safety of the Colonies.

I am Extreamly well pleased that your Assembly are roused out of their Lethergy and have granted at last the £55,000, had that been done one year ago many lives had been saved, and their Colony would not have suffered. When you are prepared, I shall heartily Co-operate with you and Governor Dinwiddie, as far as this Province hath empowered me in your Plan of operation, which, I make no doubt, will be well Concerted.

Governor Dinwiddie is sending Commrs to the Cherokees and Catawbas, with presents, to secure them in our Interest, and to procure their assistance. I shall send Commrs to Joyn theirs, to give weight to his application, altho' I have no presents to send to them, and make no doubt but Governor Littleton, who I expect hath been orderd from England to this Goverment, soon after his Return from France, will heartily Co-operate with us, in procuring the Cherokees assistance, and not betray the British Interest in America, as Glenn hath done as far as in his Power.

I shall Send a Copy of your Inclosed Letter of advice from Ship-

* Autograph, probably Franklin's, cut out.

pensburg to South Carolina, as you desire. I would fain hope the Intelligence is not true, Since so many of the Six Nations have Joynd General Johnston, and several General Shirley. I believe the Senecas may have been gained by the French, and have had Influence over the Delawars and Shawanese. I Hear that the Tuskaruras, who have Joynd the Six Nations, have sent to the Tuskaruras here for 30 men to Joyn them next Spring, and that they are Sasquehanning them to have them ready, I should be glad you would Enquire particularly whether they are in the French or our Interest, for if they are in the French Interest, it would be necessary that I should have them secured from going to Joyn them, which if they are in our Interest I should not do.

As soon as you nave any certain Intelligence about those Indians be so good as to let me know, that I may know how to act, in Case my Intelligence be true of them having demanded them. I wish you all the Success you can wish for in your Government, and that you may be able to bring those Thoughtless Representatives of y'rs to do Justice to their Colony, and to act like true Britons, in defense of their Liberties from foreign Enemies, and not spend their Time about trifling pretended Rights of their Assembly, which is all Fiction and Private Power, lest squabbling for the Shadow they should lose the Substance.

I am with Esteem, S^r^,
Your most Obedient
humble Servant,
ARTHUR DOBBS.

To Govr Morris.
Indorsed.—Govr Dobbs. New Bern, Decr 18th, 1755.

James Hamilton to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Philad^a^, 18th Dec^r^, 1755.

Dear Sir,

I have received the honour of your letter from N. York, and am extremely pleased with the Measures you are taking with General Shirley, to know the minds of the Six Nations with respect to the Cruel ravages & depredations daily Comitted on this Province.

Since you left us, Conrad Weiser, James Galbraith, & Geo. Croghan have been in Town, and have been fully examined by the Councils upon all the Points we thought necessary to be known, but I cannot say We have received much Satisfaction from them. The Country is every where so alarm'd, that were every one's Expectations to be answerd, not less than a Thousand or 1500 men would be necessary to be taken into Constant Pay, the people being frightned and preparing to fly even within twenty miles of this City. This general panick that has Seized the People, and the little assistance, or even true information we are able to obtain from the

Frontiers, in the Execution of our Trust, has Compelld Mr. Franklin, Mr. Fox, & myself to make a Journey thither, to See & Judge for Our Selves of Condition of the Country and of the most proper methods for defending it. And we are this moment setting out for Minisikk, at which place the Cruellest ravages have been made, of which I presume you have reced accounts from Justice Horsefield. Our present Scheme is to take 500 men into Constant Service, half on this & half on the other side of Sasquehannah, & to erect Five Block Houses on Each Side, and the space between them to be continually ranged by the respective Garrisons. I have given Geo. Croghan a Captain's Commission; He is to raise the men immediately, and Superintend the building over Sasquehannah, as I knew not whom else to employ, and upon Supposition that He is honest, no body is fitter for that Service. I have also enjoind him to engage as many of the Indians over the River as he possibly can to come down to the Treaty, tho' I find he has a Sorry opinion of that treaty, & says He knows of no Indians on that side, save the very few he has with him in the Fort, that may be called Friends. And I am very much afraid, upon the whole, that the intended Treaty will come to nothing. Not seeing how it is possible for Aaron Dupui, whom you entrusted with your Messages, to leave his House & family, (if he yet has a House & family) and Execute your Comission, while the whole of that Country is in such terrible Consternation. We shall, however, know more of that when we go up, and if possible hasten him to Wioming, if he be not already gone, in the mean time a present will be prepared for the Indians, which if not used for that purpose will be wanted in the several Garrisons. I have given out three or four Comissions upon the foot of our Late Law, but I find it will not take generally, but am perswaded it will lay the foundation of a Better in a little time, for the whole wealth of the Province, I see clearly, will not defend it Seven years, in the method we are in. The money melts like a Snow Ball, and I am mistaken if you have not another Bill of the like Sort to Pass with in nine months.

I am Sorry to find that Parties should arise among the Servants of the same King, at a time when the Publick Service requires the greatest Harmony. I hope & believe that if you are obliged to list in either it will be upon due Consideration, and as the right of the case appears to you. Pray Excuse this hasty Scribble, for I have not a moments time, and believe me, with great respect,

Dr Sr

Your most Obedient &
most humble Servt,
JAMES HAMILTON.

Honble Governor Morris.

Indorsed.

James Hamilton, Esqr., to Governor Morris.
18 Decr, 1755.

William Parsons to Gov. Morris, 1755.

Honoured Sir,

Mr. Peters by his Favour of the 14th, informs me that it was uncertain when you should return to Philada. Therefore, having this Opportunity, I thought it my duty to embrace it to inform you that now our Country is deserted all along Delaware River, on this side the Mountains, quite down to this Town, which is now become the only Barrier along the River, and we are realy in a poor condition to repulse the Enemy. Mr. Atkins having been with your Honr, you have received from him a fuller acco't than I can give of the Ruinous condition of the Country in this Neighbourhood, and the inclosed will give you an idea of our Situation. Since which, nothing new has come to my knowledge. By a Letter from Mr. Franklin, of the 15th, he informs me that Mr. Hamilton and himself were to set out as yesterday for these parts, and that Capt. Trump was to set out the day before yesterday for this place, & that Captsi Aston & Wayne were wrote to, to march this way immediately. The Arms, Amunition, Blankets & one Hogd Rum for Capt. Trump's Comp'y, was brought to this Town last Monday, and we expect them here every minute. I am in great hopes when Messrs Hamilton & Franklin are with us, they will take measures to put us into a better posture of Defence.

I am,

Honoured Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

WM. PARSONS.

Easton, Decemr the 19th, 1755.

Direction,

To the Hon'ble Robert Hunter Morris, Esquire, Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania, &c.

Indorsed.

William Parsons, Esq., On his Majesty's Service, 19 Dec. 1755.

Gov. Morris to Gov. of Maryland, 1755.

Philadelphia, 20th Dec'r, 1755.

Sir,

I send you inclosed the Copy of a Petition exhibited to me by Wateman Sipple,* of Kent County, upon Delaware, complaining that Thomas Harris, of Queen Anns County, as Bailiff of the Lord Proprietary of Maryland, had entred into a Tract of Land which was taken up above 20 years ago, under the Proprietors of this Province and the three lower Counties on Delaware, and has ever since been peaceably held and enjoyed by him under the said Grant, and distrained on his Goods for a large Sum of Money, pretended to be due to the Lord Baltimore, for arrears of Quit Rent. I am also informed that Anderton Brown, one of the Under Sheriffs of Dorsets County, with some others, in February last came to the House of one James Anderson, who lived in the said County of Kent, upon Land taken under the Proprietors of Pensilvania, and upon Anderson's refusing to pay him a sum of Money which he demanded for his Levy, seized him in a Violent manner, in order to carry him to Prison in the said County of Dorset, whereupon Weapons were drawn, and a Quarrel arose between the Contending Parties, which was near ending in Bloodshed. As it is, the mutual interest of the Proprietors of both Provinces, to preserve Peace and good Order among the inhabitants that live near the Borders or reputed Line, till the final determination of the Dispute at present subsisting between them, & Practises of this sort may be attended with very fatal Consequences, if they are not timely discouraged, and are Infractions of his Majesties Royal Order in Council, made for Quieting Tumults and Disorders, on or near the Borders, I doubt not but you will join with me in suppressing them, & give orders that his Lordships Officers proceed no further in the Cases that are the subjects of the complaints I have mentioned above,

I am,

Sir,

Your most humble Servt.

Indorsed.

Of a Letter to the Gov'r of Maryland, relateing to the Claims of Sipple, dated 30 Dec., 1755. Delivered to Gov. Sharpe at New York.

* See Col. Rec. Vol. VI., p. 416.

Articles of Agreement of Capt'n, McLaughlin's Company, 1755.

Easton, 29 Dec^r, 1755.

Sir:

We the Subscribers do hereby engage ourselves to serve as Soldiers in His Majestys Service, under the Command of Captain James McLaughlin, for the space of Two Months, and who ever of us shall desert or prove cowardly in time of action, or disobedient to our Officers shall forfeit his Pay. This agreement we make in Consideration of being allowed at the rate of Six Dollars per Month, Arms Ammunition, Blankets, Provisions and a Gill of Rum per day for each man. The Blanket, Arms and Ammunition left to be returned when we are discharged from the Service.

Orders to Capts. Martin & Craig, 1755.

Easton, 29 December, 1755.

Sir:

As I think it will be for the Good of the Service in general that the Troops raised in the County of Northampton, shoud be under the Care and Superintendence of a Field Officer, I have with that View in virtue of the power granted me, appointed William Parsons, Esquire, to be Major of the said Troops. You are therefore to observe and follow all such orders & Directions as you shall from time to time receive from him, touching the Marches or other Service of the Company, under your imediate Command. Any thing in your Commission or Instructions to the contrary notwithstanding.

I am, Sir,

Your most h. s.

J. HAMILTON.

Indorsed.

Orders to Capt. Martin & Capt. Craig.*

Col. George Washington to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Honble Sir:

I am sorry it has not been in my Power to acknowledge the receipt yours till now. At the time that your Letter came to Winchester, I was at Williamsburg. Before I got back it was conveyed thither, and so from place to place has it been tossing almost till this time.

* The letter to Gov. Belcher on p. 530, belongs here.

There is nothing more necessary than good Intelligence to frustrate a designing Enemy, and nothing that requires greater pains to obtain. I shall therefore chearfully come into any measures you can propose, to settle a corrispondance for this salutary end, and you may depend upon receiving (when the Provences are threaten'd) the earliest, and best Intelligence that I can procure.

I sympathiz'd in general concern to see the inactivity of your Province, in a time of eminent danger: but am pleas'd to find, that a feeling sense of wrongs has rouzd the spirit of your—Martial Assembly to vote a sum, which with your judicious application, will turn to a general good.

We took some pretty vigorous measures to collect a force upon our Frontiers, upon the first alarm, wch has kept us peaceable ever since. how long this may last—is uncertain; since that force, which were Militia, are disbanded, and the recruit'g Service almost Stagnated.

If you propose to Levy Troops, and their destination is not a secret: I shoud be favour'd were I let into the Scheme; that we may act conjunctly so far as the nature of things will admit. Pray direct to me at Alexandria, to which place I design in abt 10 days from this.

I am with great regard, and
due respect,
Yr most Obt Hble
Servt,
GO. WASHINGTON.

I heartily wish you ye Comp'ts of the Season.

Winchester,
Jany 1st 1756.

Indorsed.
Colt. Washington.

ORDERS AND INSTRUCTIONS OF GOV. M. TO CAPT. ISAAC WAYNE, DATED AT

Reading, Janry, 1756.

Cap. Wayne:

You are upon your return from Depui's to Halt with your Company at Nazareth, and there to remain till further orders, taking care all the while you are there to keep your company in good order, and to post them in such a manner as most Effectually to guard and secure that place against any attack; and if you should be past Nazareth when you receive these orders, you are then to return thither, and remain there, posting your men as above you are directed.

You are, as soon as you can, to augment your company with the number of twenty men, each man to find himself with a gun and a Blanket, for the use of which a reasonable allowance will be made by the Government. And, in making this Augmentation you are to take care to keep an exact account of the time when each man enters himself with you, so that you may be enabled to make a proper return to me upon oath.

You are to Inform the men of your company and such of the other companys as you shall Joyn or have occasion to send to, that They shall receive a reward from the Government of forty Pieces of Eight for every Indian they shall kill & scalp in any action they may have with them, which I hereby promise to pay upon producing the scalps.

As there may be occasion for the immediate use of your Company in another part of the Country, you are to Hold your self in readiness to march upon an Hours warning.

Jany. 3^{d}, 1756.*

Indorsed.

Drf^{t}.Letter to Cap^{n}. Wayne, to the care of M^{r}. Edmunds at Bethleham.

Orders to Capt. James McLaghlin, 1756.

Sir,

You are to Detach with twenty men of your Company, under the command of your Lieuten^{t}, who are to hold themselves in readiness to march at an Hours warning, and the Lieutenant with the detachment are to follow such orders as he or they shall from time to time receive from Benjamin Franklin, Esqr.

You are, with the remaining thirty men of your Company, to march to Harris's ferry, taking the road by Conrad Weiser's, and making all the dispatchyou can.

You are to take care that the arms and acoutrements of your men are in order & fit for service, and you are on your march to be upon your guard, so that you be not surprised.

The waggon with stores, will move at the same time, in which may he put such part of the men's baggage as it can conveniently carry.

Reading, January 5, 1756.†

Indorsed,

Orders to Capt. James McLaghlin, Jan'y 5, 1756.

* See Colon. Records Vol. VI., p. 770-772. Gov. Morris arrived at Reading the same day.

† See Colon. Rec. Vol. VI. pp. 770, 772.

Orders to Captain Frederick Smith, 1756.

Captain Frederick Smith,

You are, as soon as you possibly can, to Draft out of your Company fifty of the best men belonging to that Company, and with your Lieutenant and Ensign, to march to the town of Reading, where you will be mustered by James Read, Esq., and from the time of such muster, you and the Company are to enter into the Governments pay, according to the Establishment herewith given you.

You are to engage your men for a certain time, not less than two months, nor more than three months.

You are to remain in the town of Reading till you receive further orders, and while there, you are to post your men in such a manner, as best to defend that town in case it should be attacked.

You are to cause such of your men as are able to bring with them, each a gun and a Blanket, and either an ax or a grubbing hoe.

You are to keep your men sober and in order, and at all times fit for duty, and to hold yourself & them in readiness to march from Reading, at an hour's warning.

Reading, Jan'y 6, 1755.

Indorsed,

Orders to Cap. Fred. Smith, January 6, 1756.

Orders to Capt. Jonas Seely, 1756.

Sir:

You are to form a Guard of twenty-five men, of which you are to have the Command and they are to be upon the same Establishment as to pay and Provisions as the other Companys in the Government's pay; and when you have raised these men, you are to muster them before James Read, Esqr, and they are to enter into pay from the time of such muster.

As your men are to be in the pay of the Government, you are to employ them in strengthening such places in the town as you shall Judge best for its security, particularly the Yard about the county house.

You are to take care to keep your men sober & in order, and ready at all times for duty, and that thy have their arms at all times in order; and you are to post the Guard in such manner as effectually to secure the town in case of attack.

* See Colon. Rec. Vol. VI. pp. 770, 773.

In case any stores should be sent into this town belonging to the Government, you are to Lodge them in the most secure Place, and station guards upon them, not only to prevent their being surprised and distroy'd by the enemy, but to prevent embezilmt. That part of Capn Morgan's Compy which makes the town guard at Present, is to Continue upon that service till further orders.

Readg, Jany 6, 1756.

Indorsed.—Jany 6, 1756. Orders to Cap. Jonas Scely.

Orders to Adam Read, Esq., 1756.

The Commissioners thinking that the Company of fifty men under your Command are sufficient to guard the frontier along the Kittektiny Hills, from your own House to Hunter's Mill, Have refused for the present to take any other men in that quarter into the pay of the Government, and requested me to Order, and I do hereby accordingly Order you to detach twenty-five of the men now at your House, to the fort at Hunter's Mill, upon Sasquehana, under the Command of your Lieutenant or Officer next under your self, or in case there be none such appointed by the government, then under the command of such person as you shall appoint for that Service; and you are to give orders to the Commander of such detachmt to keep his men in order and fit for duty, and to cause a party of them, from time to time, to range the woods along and near the mountains toward your House; and you are in like manner to keep the men with you in good order, and to cause a party of them, from time to time, to range the woods on or near the mountains towards Hunter's Mill; and you & they are to Continue upon this service till further order.

Carlisle, January 10, 1756.

You are to add ten men to your Company out of the township of Paxton, and to make the Detachment to Hunter's Mill of twenty more men, which, with those ten, are to complete 30 for that service, and keep an acct of the time when these ten enter themselves, that you may be enabled to make up your muster roll upon oath.

Indorsed.—Carlisle, Jan. 10, 1756. Orders to Adam Read, Esqr.

Instructions of Ben. Franklin to Cap. Vanetta, 1756.

At Bethlehem, in the County of Northampton.
January 12, 1756.

To Capt. Vanetta, of the Township of Upper Smithfield.

Sir:

1. You are to proceed immediately to raise a Company of Foot, consisting of 30 able Men, including two Serjeants, with which you are to protect the Inhabitants of Upper Smithfield, assisting them while they thresh out and Secure their Corn, and Scouting from time to time as you judge necessary, on the Outside of the Settlements, with Such of the Inhabitants as may join you to discover the Enemy's Approaches, and repel their Attacks.

2. For the better Security of the Inhabitants of that District, you are to post your Men as follows: Eight at your own House, Eight at Lieutenant Henshaw's, Six with a Serjeant at Tishhock ——, and Six with another Serjeant, at or near Henry Cortracht's, and you are to settle Signals, or Means of Suddenly alarming the Inhabitants, and convening your whole Strength with the Militia of your District, on any necessary Occasion.

3. Every Man is to be engag'd for one Month, and as the Province cannot at present furnish Arms or Blankets to your Company, you are to allow every Man enlisting and bringing his own Arms & Blanket, a Dollar for the Use thereof over and above his Pay.

4. You are to furnish your Men with Provisions, not exceeding the Allowance mentioned in the Paper herewith given you, and your reasonable Accounts for the same shall be allowed and paid.

5. You are to keep a Diary or Journal of every Day's Transactions, and an exact Account of the Time when each Man enters himself with you, and if any Man desert or die you are to note the Time in your Journal, and the Time of engaging a new Man in his Place, and submit your Journal to the Inspection of the Governor when required.

6. You are to acquaint the Men, that if in their Ranging they meet with, or are at any Time attack'd by the Enemy, and kill any of them, Forty Dollars will be allow'd and paid by the Government for each Scalp of an Indian Enemy so killed, the same being produced with proper Attestations.

7. You are to take care that your Stores and Provisions be not wasted.

8. If by any Means you gain Intelligence of the Designs of the Enemy, or the March of any of their Parties towards any Part of the Frontier, you are to send Advice thereof to the Governor, and to the other Companies in the Neighbourhood, as the Occasion may require.

9. You are to keep good Order among your Men, and prevent Drunkenness and other Immoralities, as much as may be, and not

Suffer them to do any Injury to the Inhabitants whom they come to protect.

10. You are to take Care that the Men keep their Arms clean and in good Order, and that their Powder be always kept dry and fit for Use.

11. You are to make up your Muster Roll at the Month's End, in order to receive the Pay of your Company, and to make Oath to the Truth thereof before a Justice of the Peace, and then transmit the same to the Governor.

B. FRANKLIN.

Indorsed.

Instructions to Capt. John Vanetta.

Obligation of Soldiers, 1756,

Jany. 12th, 1756.

We, the Subscribers, do hereby engage ourselves to serve as Soldiers in his Majesty's Service, under the command of Captain John Vanetta, for the Space of one Month, and whoever of us shall get drunk, desert, or prove cowardly in Time of Action, or disobedient to our Officers, shall forfeit his Pay. This Agreement we make in Consideration of being allow'd at the rate of Six Dollars per Month, Wages, one Dollar for the Use of a Gun and Blanket, to each Man who shall furnish himself with them, and the Provisions and Rum mentioned in a Paper hereunto annex'd.*

Orders and Instructions of Gov. Morris to Conrad Weiser, Esqr., Col'l. of the County of Berks, 1756.

I have orderd Capn. Christian Busse with a company of fifty men in the pay of this Province, to proceed to the Gap at Tolihaio, and there to erect a stoccado fort of the form and dimensions given him, and to take posts there, and range the woods from that fort westward towards Swehataro and eastward towards a stoccado to be built by Cap. Morgan, about half way between the said fort and fort Lebanon.

I have orderd Capn. Jacob Morgon, who is posted at a fort in the forks of Schuylkill, called fort Lebanon, to leave twenty men in that fort and proceed with the remaining thirty to some convenient place about half way between that fort and Fort at Tolihaio, and there to erect a stoccado of about 40 foot square, where he is to leave 20 men under a Comissd officer and to return to fort Lebanon which he is to make his head quarters, and from that stoccado & from fort

* Signed by nearly fifty soldiers.

Lebanon, his men are to Range and scour the woods both eastward and westward.

I have given them Instructions, to obey such orders as they shall receive from you who I have appointed Coll° of the County of Berks, and particularly not to leave or depart from their stations, or suffer any of their officers to do so without leave from you, signified in writing.

You will therefore inform yourself from time to time of the state and condition of those several forts and garrisons, and of the number of men doing duty in each, and give such orders as the circumstances of the Country may require, and as you may judge most conducive to his majestys service; informing me as soon as may be, of the order you give, and the reasons that induced you to give them.

And as I have instructed those Captains to send notice to you of the approach of any party of the enemy, and any other inteligence that they may receive, you will, upon such intelligence, send immediate notice thereof to me, with every material circumstance you can collect, and, till you receive my orders, you are to take such measures for supporting the garrisons in the several forts upon the frontier, for protecting the inhabitants and annoying the enemy as you shall judge most conducive to those ends.

You are to inform me from time to time of what is done and doing upon the frontiers of the County of Berks, and in its neighbourhood.

Indorsed.

Orders and Instructions to Conrad Weiser, Esqr., Jany. 25th, 1756.

Benj. Franklin to Gov. 1756.

Bethlehem, Jany 14, 1756.

Sir,

As we drew near this Place we met a Number of Waggons, and many People moving off with their Effects and Families from the Irish Settlement and Lehi Township, being terrified by the Defeat of Hays's Company, and the Burnings & Murders committed in the Township on New Year's Day. We found this Place fill'd with Refugees, the Workmen's Shops and even Cellars being crowded with Women & Children; and we learnt that Lehi Township is almost entirely abandoned by the Inhabitants. Soon after my arrival here, the principal People of the Irish Settlement, as Wilson, elder Craig, &c., came to me and demanded an Addition of 30 Men to Craig's Company, or threat'ned they would immediately one and all leave that Country to the Enemy. Hays's Company was reduc'd to 18 Men, (and those without Shoes, Stockings, Blankets or Arms,) partly by the Loss at Gnadenhutten, and partly by Desertion. Trump

and Aston had made but slow Progress in building the First Fort, complaining for want of Tools, which it was thought the People in those Parts might have Supply'd them with. Wayne's Company we found posted at Nazareth agreeable to your Honour's Orders. I immediately directed Hays to compleat his Company, and he went down to Bucks County with Mr. Beatty, who promised to assist him in Recruiting. His Lieutenant lies here lame with frozen Feet, and unfit for Action; But the Ensign with the 18 Men is posted among the present Frontier Inhabitants to give some Satisfaction to the Settlement People, as I refus'd to increase Craig's Company. In my turn, I have threaten'd to disband or remove the Companies already posted for the Security of particular Townships, if the People would not stay on their Places, behave like Men, do something for themselves, and assist the Province Soldiers. The Day after my Arrival here, I sent off 2 Waggons loaded with Bread, and some Axes, for Trump & Aston, to Nazareth, escorted by Lieut. Davis, and the 20 Men of McLaughlin's that came with me; I ordered him to remain at Nazareth to guard that Place while, Capt. Wayne whose Men were fresh proceeded with the Convoy. To secure Lyn and Heidleberg Township, whose Inhabitants were just on the Wing, I took Trexler's Company into Pay, (he had been before commission'd by Mr. Hamilton) and I commission'd Wetterholt, who commanded a Watch of 44 Men before in the Pay of the Province, ordering him to compleat his Company. I have also allow'd 30 Men to secure the Township of Upper Smithfield, and commisson'd Van Etten and Hinshaw as Captain and Lieutenant. And in order to execute more speedily the first Design of erecting a Fort near Gnadenhutten to compleat the Line and get the Rangers in Motion, I have rais'd another Company under Capt. Charles Foulk, to join with Wayne in that Service; and as Hays I hear is not likely soon to recruit his Company, I have ordered Orndt to come up from Rockland in Bucks County to strengthen this Part of the Province, convoy Provisions, &c. to the Company, who are and will be at work over the Mountains, and quiet the Inhabitants who seem terrified out of their Senses.

The Arms & Blankets wrote for to New York are not yet arriv'd; but I hear that 100 Guns & 150 Blankets are on the Road, sent me by Mr. Colden; those of Mr. Walton's being sold before. I have consulted Mr. Parsons, and if the Waggons come to-Day, it is proposed that I proceed to-morrow with Wayne's Company, which is return'd, Foulk's, and the 20 Men of McLaughlin's, to Gnadenhutten, to lay out the intended Fort, and endeavor to get it dispatch'd. Capt. Wayne tells me that Trump expects the first Fort will be finished next Week; I hope to get this done as soon, having more Tools, tho' at this Season it seems to be fighting against Nature. But I imagine 'tis absolutely necessary to get the Ranging Line of Forts compleated that the People may be secur'd as soon as possible in their Habitations, and the internal Guards and Companies dis-

missed, otherwise the Expence & Loss to the Province will be intolerable.

I want much to hear the Event of the proposed Treaty, and the Determination your Honour and the Commissioners may have come to, for the Encouragement of Volunteer Scalping Parties.

I am, with dutiful Respect, Sir.*

Govr. Morris.

P. S.—If you should think fit to pass the Regulars at Easton & in Smithfield Township, I think they would be of use there, & so far on their Way to Albany, when they are to return in the Spring.

Indorsed.—Benj^a. Franklin.

Orders and Instructions of Gov. M. to Conrad Weiser, Esq., 1756.

As there is great Reason to believe from the intelligence of Silver Heels that the Town of Neskopeken is become the Head-quarters of th French and Indians that have for some time infested our Borders, it is of great consequence to his Majesty's Service and the safety of the Province, to be fully informed of the number that Rendezvous there, and of the strength of the partys that are employed in distroying our out settlements, and more especially so as the Governm^t have a design to erect a Fort at Shamokin, agreeable to the request of the Indians.

You will, therefore, upon what I have said to the Indians in gen^l, prevail with two of them to undertake a Journey to Neskopeken, and to return immediately to Hunter's Mill, from whence they will be conducted to you, and you will get from them every material circumstance relating to the strength, situation and circumstances of the enemy, which you will reduce to writing, and transmit to me without delay.

Should the enemy be informed of the design of building at Shamokin they may take measure to prevent it, or at least to annoy the men that may be employed in that service. I must therefore recommened it to you to use all imaginable precaution in your choice of the Indians to be employed upon this service, that they are firmly attached to the English Interest as they are already acquainted with the Governments intention in that particular.

Whatever sum you may think necessary to Promise the Indians that you employ upon this service shall be allowed, and you are to

* The signature cut off by some Autograph hunter.

pay them upon their return, and draw upon the Commissioners at Philad^a for the same.

Carlisle, January 19th, 1756.

Indorsed.

Orders and Instructions to Conrad Weiser, Esqr, 19th Jan'ry, 1756.

Instructions to Adam Read, 1756.

Having appointed Capt Frederick Smith to take post with an Independent Company at the Gap where Swehatara passes the Mountains, and to station a detachment of his Company at Monaday, there will be no necessity of your continuing Longer upon Guard in that part of the Frontier, you will therefore dismiss the men now employed in that service, and deliver to Capt Smith such arms, accoutriments, tools, Blankets & Stores belonging to the Province as have at any time came to your hands, taking his receipt for the same, which you are to transmit to Me.

I have also appointed Thomas M'Kee to take post at or near Hunter's Mills, with thirty men; you are to continue that part of your Company stationed there upon that service till they are relieved by him, when you are to give orders for their being dismissed, and you are to give directions to the officer commanding that detachment to deliver to Capt M'Kee such Provincial arms, accoutrim^ts, Blankets, tools and stores as he may at any time have received, and to take M'Kee's receipt for them, which you are also to transmit to me.

You are to make out a list of the men that have been on duty upon the Frontiers under your Command, and an acc^t of the time that each man has been in that service, upon your oath, which you are to transmit to me to be laid before the Commissioners at Philad^a.

You will give orders to Capt Hendrick, who is posted upon the Northern Frontier of the County of Lancaster to dismiss his men from that service upon Capt Smith's taking post at the Stations above mentioned to deliver to him all the Provincial arms & stores and to make a return to me upon his oath of the number & names of men that have done duty under his Command, and of the time they have respectively been upon that service, that the same may be laid before the Commissioners.

As the Province is at present in great want of Arms and Blankets you will return to me an exact account, not only of the Provincial arms & stores you have received and distributed, but of what has been received by any of your men, and you are to signify to such of them as have arms or Blankets belonging to the Province that

their pay will be stop'd till they are delivered up to Capt Smith and his Receipt produced for them.

Reading, Jan'ry 26th, 1756.

Indorsed.

Instructions to Adam Read, Esqr, Jan'ry 26, 1756.

Orders and Instructions to Frederick Smith, Esq., Christian Busse, 1756.

Sir:

Having appointed you Cap^{n} of a Company of foot to be paid and supplied, I think it necessary to give you the following orders and Instructions, according to the following Establishm^{t}, viz: for your better government in the Execution of the trust reposed in you.

1. You are as soon as Possible to Proceed with the Company under your Command to the gap at Tolchaio, where Swehatara comes through the Mountain, and in some convenient place there you are to erect a Fort, of the form and dimensions herewith given you, unless you shall Judge the Staccado, already erected there, conveniently placed in which case you will take possession of it, and make such additional works as you may think necessary to render it sufficiently strong and defenceable.

2. You are to Leave at Swehatara a part of your Company, sufficient to maintain that post under one of your officers, and with the remainder of your Company, you are to Proceed to the gap where the river Monaday passes the Mountains, and Either take possession and strengthen the Stuccado already erected there, or erect a new one as you shall Judge best, and then you are to Return to the fort at Swehatara, which you are to make your head quarters, leaving twenty men under the Command of a commissioned Officer at the fort at Monaday, and relieving them from time to time, in part or in whole as you shall think proper.

[3. The second in the additional Instructions to Burd, as well for the fort at Swehatara, as that at Monaday, you are &c.*]

* These and some others of the following instructions are in detached paragraphs, supposed to have been addressed in portions to various individuals as circumstances varied; as in this instance, Capt. Busse is here introduced as addressed, but it is with a different introduction which is here omitted, instead of copying the instructions to Burd, they are thus referred to, to be connected with some other portion. They serve to show the different orders at the moment.

Capt. Smith, 1756.

You are to Communicate these Instructions to your Officers, that are stationd at the fort at Monaday, and if you Judge it necessary you may give them coppys for their better government.

As you are unacquainted with the situation of the country, on the northern frontier of the County of Lancaster, where you are to take post, I have Directed James Gelbreth, Esqr., to furnish you with all the Information in his Power, and to afford you his advice and assistance, not only in the Choice of ground proper to erect the forts upon, but as to any other matters that may relate to the service you are upon, and you will apply to him for such assistance from time to time as you stand in need of it.

You are to receive of Capt. Read & Capt. Hedericks, such arms accoutriments, Blankets and stores, as belong to the Province of which you are to return an exact account to me, and take care of such as shall remain in your Hands, and Having orderd Capt Thomas McKee, to raise a company of Thirty men, and to take post and scour the country between Sasquahana & Monaday, you are upon his application to supply him with such of the s^{d} arms, accoutriments, tools, Blankets and stores, as you can spare from your own Company, taking his receipt for the same, and inform me of what you supply him with.

Direction.

Orders and Instructions to Christian Busse, Esqr.

Indorsed.

Orders and Instructions to Capt. Frederick Smith,
Jan^{ry} 26th, 1756.

Instructions to T. McKee, 1756.

Things done, Jan'y 26, 1756.

T. McKee,

You are to receive from the officer now commanding the detachment of Capt. Read's Company at Hunter's Mill, and who you are to relieve, such Arms, Accoutrements, Blankets, Tools and Stores, as he may have in his hands belonging to the Province, with which you are to furnish your Company, but if that be not sufficient, you are to apply to Capt. Frederick Smith for a further supply out of what he will receive from Capt. Read and Capt. Hedericks.

But as the Province is at present in want of Arms and Blankets, if any of the men you shall inlist, will find themselves with those

articles, they shall receive half a dollar for the use of their gun, and half a dollar for the use of a Blanket.

Indorsed.

Orders and Instructions to Cap. McKee. 26th January, 1756.

Instructions to James Galbraith, 1756.

Reading, Jan'y 26, 1756.

Sir:

I have appointed Thomas McKee a Captain, and ordered him to raise thirty men in the pay of the Province, for the Protection of the Northern frontiers of Lancaster county, from Sasquahana to Monaday, and have given him full instructions for his government in the execution of that trust, as you will observe by the Commission and Instructions under this cover, which you will deliver and administer to him & his Lieutenant, the oaths to the Government, and an oath for the due and faithful discharge of their trust, pursuant to the Power for that purpose also under this cover, a certificate of which you will indorse on their respective commissions.

As I am not acquainted with any person proper to be appointed Lieutenant to that Company, I must desire you will think of a fit person for that employ, and I do hereby give you power to fill up the inclosed commission with the name of such person as you may think worthy of that trust, and to deliver the Commission to such person, whose name you will return to me.

I have instructed Capt. McKee to muster his Company before you, when you will make out a list of the names of the officers and soldiers, with their ages, trades, and places of Birth, which you will return to me as soon as possible after the thing is done, that I may know when that company are fit for service.

I have also instructed Capt. McKee to advise with you, whether to finish the fort already begun at Hunter's mill, or to build a new one, and as to the place where it would be best to erect such new one, I therefore desire you will assist him in those matters, or in any thing else that the King's service and the safety of the inhabitants may require.

I have ordered Capt. Smith, with a Company from Chester County, to take post at the Gap at Swehatara, and to station a detachment of his men at Monaday, either in the Stockades already built there, or to erect such others as he may Judge best; but as he is a stranger to that part of the country, I must desire you will assist him with your advice, not only as to the most advantageous situations for the

forts, in case it should be resolved to erect new ones, but in any thing else that the service may require, and let me know from time to time what is done in that quarter.

James Galbreth, Esq.

Indorsed.

Draft of Letter to James Galbreath, Esq. Jan'y 26, 1756.

Orders and Instructions to Jacob Morgan, 1756.

As you are Captain of a Company of foot in the pay of this Province, now posted at a fort in the forks of Schuylkill, I think it necessary to give you the following Orders and Instructions for your better government and direction, in the execution of the trust reposed in you.

1. You are, as soon as possible, to march with a detachment of thirty men of your Company, to some convenient place, about half way between fort Lebanon and Fort , at the Gap of Talchaio, where you are to erect a Stuccado fort of the form and dimensions herewith given you.

2d. In chusing the ground for that Stuccado, you are to take care that there be no hill near it that over looks or commands it, from whence an enemy may annoy the people within the walls, and that there be a Spring or Running stream of water, either in the fort or at least within the command of your guns.

The rest as in Smiths, altering the names only.

Indorsed.

Orders and Instructions to Cap. Jacob Morgan.
Janry 26, 1756.

Instructions to Christian Busse and Morgan, 1756.

You are to communicate to Coll. Weiser what you do in obedience to these Instructions, and the intelligence you may at any time procure of the motions or designs of the enemy, and he will convey the same to me, and afford you such assistance as you may stand in need of, and you are to observe and obey such orders as you shall receive from him.

Reading, Janry 25, 1756.

Instructions to Jonas Seely, 1756.

Having ordered a Company of Grenadiers, belonging to Gen[l] Shirley's Regiment, to take post in the town of Reading, and to take upon them the Guard and Protection of the town, you will take care to supply that Company with Provisions, in the same manner that the Provincial troops are, and give all the assistance in your power to the officers and men of that Company. And as soon as those troops arrive and take post in this town, you are to notifie to the men raised by your self that they are to be no longer in the pay of the Province; And whenever that Company of Granadiers move from hence, you are then to take twenty five men into the pay of the Province, post them in this town as a guard, and follow my former orders. You will make out the account of the Guard that you have had in this town, and transmit to me the acc[t], together with the muster Roll, containing the names of the several men employd in that service, that the same may be considered by the Commissioners.

Reading, Jan[ry] 27, 1756.*

Indorsed.

Jonas Seely, 27th January, 1756.

Gov. Morris to Gov. Sharpe, 1756.

Philad[a], Jan[ry] 29th, 1756.

Sir:

I last night returned from visiting the frontiers of this Province, in which I have been employed above a month, and expect in about ten Days a chain of forts will be completed from Delaware to the new Road made towards the Alleghany Hills, which will be garrison'd by about Eight Hundred men. On the west side of Sasquehana the forts are already erected, one at a River calld Matchitongo, about twelve miles from the Sasquehana, which I have calld Pomfret Castle, another near Juniata, where Kiskiquokilis falls into it, calld fort Granville, a third at Auckwick, called fort Shirley, and a fourth at the Sugar Cabins, upon the new Road, called fort Lytellton; at each of these I have placed a garrison of seventy five men, & orderd them to range the woods each way. Fort Lytelton, I am told, is within about sixteen mile of a fort you have erected, and I have directed the party there to range towards that fort, to give them notice of the aproach of any enemy, and to afford them all the assistance in their power.

A Messenger, employed on some private business to your town,

* This order was countermanded by the Govr. See March 10, 1756.

gives me an opportunity of writing you, but allows me only time to mention an unhappy affair that happend at Halifax, between the Col^s Monckton and Winslow, who it seems had some dispute while they were upon Service together, but suppressd their resentment till they came to Halifax, when meeting, either by accident or appointment, they engaged, and are both wounded in such a manner as to leave little hopes of the recovery of Either of them. This acc^t was sent to Genl Shirley by Express, and is therefore to be depended on, & I last night received the Kings Speech in a New York paper, which I send you inclosed, by which, and by M^r. Foxs being made Secretary of State, it seems to me a war with France is near at hand.

Indorsed.

Dft to Govr Sharpe. Jan^ry 29th, 1756.

Gov. Morris to Gov. Sharpe, 1756.

Sir,

The letter herewith I intended by a messenger that went away yesterday without giving me the notice he promis'd, and I now send it by the return of the express who brought me your favour of ye 24 Instant. I have mentiond in that letter, the chain of forts & block-houses from Delaware towards Potomack, along the Kitectiny hills; those to the westw'd of Sasquahana are about 20 miles assunder and those between Sasquahana and Delaware about ten. The garisons in the former are seventy-five men each, in the latter from fifty to twenty, according to their situation & importance.

I also propose to Build a fort at Shamokin, at the forks of Sasquahana, as soon as the season will admit a passage up that river, for eth mountains north of the Kitectiny are quite impassable for carriages. This is what our friendly Indians request'd of me at the late interview, and say they will collect themselves together under the protection of such a fort, and readily assist us in the defence of our frontier, or in any attempts that we shall make upon the French encroachm^ts.

The building these forts and block houses, paying, arming, and victualling their several garrisons, relieving the distressd inhabitants that are drove from their plantations, and other charges, swallow up

* This is probably to Gov'r Sharpe's inquiries respecting the forts. See Colon. Rec., Vol. VI., p. 32; his letter there is dated Jan'y 24, 1756, so the date of this should be 1756, as the reference to it in the following proves.

† This appears to be about the commencement of a regular chain of forts along the Susquehanna and elsewhere. It is difficult to ascertain the localities of many of these forts at the present day. After the various accounts are printed, a connected view of them will be attempted.

the greatest part if not the whole of the sixty thousand pounds granted by the assembly. There must be a new grant to enable me to undertake anything to the westward, which I am apt to believe the assembly here would not be against undertaking, if they were to be excused from contributing towards the northern expedition, but much doubt whether I shall be able to induce them to come into both. However, a few days will determine their resolutions, as I have summond them to meet on Tuesday next.

It gives me great pleasure to hear of governor Dinwiddies success with the Cherekees and Catawbas, a thousand of their warriors will give our western affairs another face, if they are properly employ'd, especially, if those already gone against the Shawanese town should prove victorious, which I heartily wish they may.

The operations of the next summer will, therefore, require a new grant, and I am apt to think my assembly would contribute largely towards an Enterprise to the westward, if they could be excused from bearing a part in the Northern Expedition. But a few days will show what their resolutions are as I have summond them to meet the day after to-morrow.

The Indians that met me gave me very warm assurances of their attachment to the English, and offerd to serve us in any capacity either as warriors or as messengers. Their number, indeed, was small, the greatest part of those in our Interest having retired to the country of the six nations, that they might be out of danger, either from the French, their Indians, or from us: from whence they have sent me a message, assuring me of their friendship, and giving the reason of their retreat.

Having been informed that the Enemy, Indians, had taken up their head quarters at a place called Nescopecken, upon the East Branch of Sasquahana, I have sent two trusty Indians thither to bring me intelligence of their numbers, and whether there be any French among them, and how many. And when we are by these Indians informed of their situation, it will be no difficult matter to attack and dislodge them, & I Imagine the commissioners will come into measures for that purpose.

I was in such a hurry when I came from New York, and obliged to go immediately to the frontier, that I had not time to write, and congratulate you on your safe return, where, I hope, you have had perfect health. I find that Genl. Shirley and Coll^o. Johnson parted upon tolerable terms; the latter has been some time gone to a meeting of the six nations, where, I hope, he will have the address and Influence to induce them to Joyn more unanimously in our cause than they have hitherto done for considering the principal seat of the next years operations, their assistance must be a matter of very great importance.

Indorsed.

Df^t. of Letter to Govr. Sharpe, Feb^ry. 1st, 1756.

Extract from Col. Johnson's late Treaty, 1756.

Brother,

We must correct you a little; You desire us to write and live together, & draw all our allies near us; but we shall have no land left us either for ourselves or them, for your people when they buy a small piece of land of us, by stealing they make it large. We desire such things may not be done, & that your people may not be suffered to buy any more of our land, sometimes 'tis bought of two men, who are not the proper owners of it. The Land that reaches from Swegy to Schahacdawana, we beg may not be settled by Christians, but if any come there, they may be called away, that so we may have land left for ourselves & our Allies.

Gave a Large & Small Belt.

Conochguissa, the Oneyda Sachem, then rose up and said:

Brother,

You promised us you would keep this fire place clear of all Filth, & that no snake should come into the Council Room. That man sitting there, (pointing to Lydius,) is a devil, and has stole our Lands; he takes an Indian slyly by the Blanket, one at a time, and when they are drunk, puts money into their bosoms, & persuades them to sign Deeds for our lands upon the Susquehanna, which we will not ratify, nor suffer to be settled by any means. The Governor of Pensylvania bought a whole tract, & only paid for the half, & we desire you will let him know that we will not part with the other Half, but keep it. These things make us constantly uneasy in our minds, & we desire you will take care that we keep our lands for ourselves.

Gave a very large Belt.

Col. Johnson then told them that he had attentively heard what they had said, but as it was too late to give them an answer, he would make a reply to-morrow morning.

Brethren,

I am convinced that many frauds have been made use of in the purchasing of your lands, which I am very sorry for, But the King, your father, having heard of your Complaints, & ever mindful of your welfare, hath sent such order to the Govr of this Province as will prevent these Evil Doings for the future. And I don't doubt but he will punish those who have been guilty of these proceedings.

Gave a Belt.

Brethren,

I did promise I would keep this Fire place free from all filth, & I did desire that no Snake should come into this Council Room. As to Col. Lydius, if his coming here was such an offence to you, I am sorry for it; He came of his own accord, without any invitation from me. If Col. Lydius hath done as you represent, & which I am afraid is in a great measure true, I think he is very faulty, & that no body should attempt to settle lands upon such unfair pretences. I will endeavour all in my power that Justice may be done you in this affair.

As to those lands the Proprietaries of Pensylvania bought of you last year, it was done in a fair and open manner, with the consent of your whole Body then present, & I believe most of your Sachems now here, did agree to and were present at that Bargain, & tho' you then received but half the purchase money, you were told you might have the other half whenever you would call for it, with which you were satisfied. For you, therefore, to want to recall half of that purchase, for the whole of which you have given a deed, in so publick & so solemn a manner, is in my opinion, very unreasonable & unjust. If you expect Justice to be done you, you ought to be ready to do Justice yourselves, & believe me, my Brethren, that to be honest men, is the surest way to be happy & respected. I think you ought, & I would advise you to stand by the Bargain, & take the rest of your Purchase money when you want it. As to the Schahaedowana Lands, the Proprietarys will not attempt to settle it. But whenever you are inclined to sell it, you will remember you are engaged to sell it to them.

Gave a Belt.

Indorsed.

Extract from Col. Johnson's Treaty, Jan'y & Feb'y, 1756.

Gov. Morris to Gov. Dinwiddie, 1756.

Philada., 1st Feb'y, 1756.

Sir,

Yors of ye 2d Jan'y* I rec'd yesterday. I returned back last Wednesday from a Month's Tour I have been takeing into ye back parts of ye Prov'e, wth a double view, to raise ye Spirits of ye People there, & encourage them to make a stand agt ye Indians, & build a Chain of Forts along our Frontier. And to hold ye proposed Treaty wth ye Indians I had invited to meet me at Harris's Ferry, on ye Susquehannah.

* See it, Col. Rec. Vol. VII, p. 30.

This Chain of Forts & Block ho^{s}, is to extend from Delaware along ye Kittahteny Hills, to ye new Road opened on our Southern Frontier tow^{ds} ye Allegany Hills; Those on ye West side of Susquehannah are already erected, at ab^{t} 20 miles asunder. One of them is placed at a River called Matchetongo, ab^{t} 12 miles from Susquehanah, wch I have called Pomfret Castle, another near Juniata, where Kishikoquillos falls into it, call'd Fort Granville; a 3d at Auchquick, call'd Fort Shirley, & a 4th at ye Sugar Cabbins upon ye new Road, calld Fort Littleton. At each of these I have placed a Garrison of 75 men, & ordered them to range ye Woods each way. Those between Delaware & Susquehana, are to be ab^{t} 10 or 12 miles asunder; ye most considerable of them is built at an important Pass thro' ye Kittahteny Hills, on our Northern Frontier, & I have called it Fort Henry. The whole of them I expect will be compleated in ab^{t} 10 days, & will be garrisoned by 800 men actually raised & taken into ye Gov^{ts} pay for y^{t} purpose.

The Indians that met me gave me very warm assurances of their attachment to the English, & offered to serve us in any capacity, either as Warriors or as Messengers. Their number indeed, was small, the greatest part of those in our Interest having retired to the Country of the Six Nations, that they might be out of danger, either from the French, their Indians, or from us, & from whence they have sent me a Message, assuring me of their friendship, & giving the reason of their retreat.

Having been informed that the Enemy Indians had taken up their head quarters at a Place called Nescopeckon, upon the East Branch of Susquahannah, I have sent two Trusty Indians thither, to bring me intelligence of their Numbers, and whether there be any French among them, and how many. And when we are by these Indians informed of their situation, it will be no difficult matter to attach and dislodge them, & I imagine the Commissioners will come into measures for that purpose.

I approve much of ye measures you have and are takeing to cultivate & secure the Friendship of ye Southern Indians, & congratulate you on your Success wth them. I most heartily wish ye party of your Rangers, in conjunction wth ye 130 Cherokees, may succeed in their proposed Expedition ag^{t} ye Shawanese Towns, & I long to hear ye issue of it.

Your observations for ye badness of our Militia Law, are very just. When it was sent up to me by our Assembly, I saw clearly they had nothing in view by it, but to amuse ye People wth ye Name of a Militia Law, & by appearing ready to pass one, however so absurd, to turn ye peoples resentments, wc^{h} they perceived were raising high ag^{t} ye Governm^{t} for want of such a Law & a proper provision for their Defence from themselves, & turn all ye Odium on me. I therefore, to their g^{t} disappointments, passed it, in hopes I might thereby open ye eyes of the People, & let them see where

the fault lay. This had ye desired effect, & was a g^t means of bringing them into ye giving ye 60,000lbs. But considerable as y^t sum is, I find it will all be swallowed in ye building Forts, paying & victualling Garrisons, relieving & arming our back Inhabitants, supporting ye French Neutrals, & other necessary charges.

Indorsed.

Dft. of Letter to Gov. Dinwiddie, Feb'y 1st, 1756.

Gov. Morris to Conrad Weiser, 1756.

Philada. Feb'ry 2d, 1756.

Sir,

On Saturday Even. last I received the originals of the Inclosed, from Scarroyady & Andrew Montour, I was glad to find that instead of their having deserted our interest & gone over to the Enemy, as was most falsely reported, they had faithfully pursued their journey & delivered their message like the trusty honest friends we always looked on them to be, and I desire you will as soon as you can write to some Proper persons in Lancaster, Cumberland and York Counties, to let them know this, in order to remove the bad impressions & Prejudices that have prevailed there against them. I have given directions to Mr. Stevenson, at Albany, to supply them with every thing they may want.

I must likewise get you to recollect if you know or ever heard of the fact complained of by some Seneca Indians, as mentioned in the inclosed Letter from Sr Chas Hardy, and by enquirys among the few Indians in the Province, especially those of the Seneca Nation, and every other method in your power, endeavour to inform yourself what foundation there is for such a complaint against any of our Inhabitants, & send me your thoughts about the affair as soon as may be, that I may be enabled to give Genl Johnson a proper answer. I am, &c.

ROBT. H. MORRIS.

Indorsed.

Copy Govr Morris's Letter to Conrad Weiser, Feb'y 2d, 1756.

Gov. Morris to Conrad Weiser, 1756.

P'da., 2d Febry, 1756.

Sir:

I rec'd yours of the 29th Janry, & am pleas'd to hear of ye March of ye Captns Busse & Smith, as you mention, & shall be glad to hear yt Captn Speering & those under his Comand are lodged & accomodated agreeable to themselves.

It not a little surprizes me to find yt ye People of Reading shou'd think themselves less secure wth ye Addition of 40 Regulars to their own Forces, & I shall be very sorry they shou'd think of acting so ridiculous a part as to desert & give up ye Town to be destroy'd by ye Enemy, for no other reason but their being render'd so much more able to defend it agt them. And I presume, if the Inhabitants realy leave it, as you say they threaten, ye Comissrs will not think ye Houses alone worth ye Expence of defending.

You'l please to forward ye inclos'd to Col. Weiser as soon as may be, & am.*

Indorsed.—Febry 2d, 1756. Dft. to Conrad Weiser.

Orders and Instructions to Thomas McGee, Esq., 1756

1. With these Instructions you will receive a commission, appointing you a Capt of a company, to be raised in the pay of this Province, which company is to consist of twenty-eight men and two sergeants, besides yourself and your Lieutet, and are to be paid and victualed as follows, viz.: one Captain 7–6, &ca., as in Burds.

2. You will therefore proceed immediately to raise the said company, in doing which you will take care to have all the men properly and regularly Inlisted, by taking the oath of fidelity to his Majesty in the form herewith given you, before some Magistrate having authority to administer the same, and causing the second and sixth Sections of his Majesty's articles of war also herewith, to be read to Each soldier at the time of his Inlistment, of which the Magistrate will give you a certificate in the common form, which certificates you are to return to me, together with a list or Roll of the names of your men, their ages, the place of their Birth, trade, and time of Inlistment, upon your oath, that the same is a true list or Roll of the Company under your Command.

3. When your Company is complete, you are to muster them before James Gilbreth, Esqr, and from the day of such muster they are to enter into pay, and to be subsisted at the expence of the Province, and

* Copy of this letter is indorsed "to C. Weiser," but from the last paragraph it was probably addressed to another person, inclosing the one for C. W

not before. But yourself and your lieuten't are to receive pay from the time of your entering into the service, respectively, which will appear by the date of the certificate on the back of your Commiss^{n} of your having taken the oaths to the Government.

4. As soon as your Company is completed & muster'd, you are to march to a place called Hunter's Mill, upon the river Sasquehannah, and Either compleat the fort already begun there, or build another at such other convenient place as James Gilbreth, Esqr shall advise, who is requested to go with you for that purpose; and in case it should be thought necessary to erect a new fort, you are to build it of the form and dimensions herewith given you.

Indorsed.—Cap^{n} McKee's Instructions.

Additional Instructions to Capt. McGee,† 1756.

I have ordered Coll. Weiser to send two of the most trusty of our Indians for Intelligence to the Branches of Susquehannah, who are to return to Hunter's Mill as soon as possible, the Names of which Coll. Weiser will inform you of.

You are, therefore, as soon as they Arrive at or near the Fort under your Command, to use them well, and to be careful to send one or more proper persons, as you shall judge necessary, to Conduct them safe through the Inhabitants to Coll. Weiser's House.

You are to avoid ask^{g} them any Questions on their return concerning the Intelligence they may have got; but if they should of their own accord enter on the Subject with you, you are by no means to divulge, but keep the Intelligence they may give you an absolute secret, as you will answer the contrary at your peril.

Indorsed.—Instructions to Cap. Thos McGee, Feby 2, 1756.

Gov. Morris to Col. Washington, 1756.

Feb. 2^{d}, 1756.

Coll. Washington:

Sir—

I am favoured with yours of the 1st Instant,* which I did not receive till my return on Wednesday last from the Frontier, where I have been employed for a month past in forming a line of Forts and Block Houses from Delaware along the Kitectiny Hills as far as the

* This probably should be *ulto.*, & refers to the letter of that date on page 541.

† This perhaps is intended for M'Kee, agreeably to the above indorsement.

new road that leads to the Aleghany Hills, and which I am in hopes ten days will complete; on the West of Sasquehanna I have placed one at the Sugar Cabins, upon the new road, which I have named Fort Lytellton, another at Aughwick called Fort Shirley, a third upon the Juniata, where the Kishequokilis falls into it, called Fort Granvile, and a forth between that and the Sasquehanna, called Pomfret Castle, in these I have placed garrisons of seventy-five men each, with orders to range the woods each way from their respective forts, to give notice of the aproach of any enemy and to use their utmost endeavours to intercept and destroy any partys of French and Indians that they discover. On the East side of the Susquehanna the Forts are about ten or twelve miles assunder among which the most Considerable are Fort Henry, at a pass through the mountains, called Tolihaio, Fort Lebanon, on the Forks of Schulkill and Fort Allen, upon the West Branch of Delaware, where the Moravians had a town called Gnaden Hutten, the others being only Block houses. The garrisons in these are from fifty to twenty men each, according to their situation and importance. I hope these forts will in great measure protect the inhabitants from the future cruelties and incursions of the Indians, but I am fearfull the mentaining such a number of men as is necessary to garrison those Forts will be a Burthen too heavy for this Province to bear, as what we have already done will go near to swallow up the sixty thousand pounds granted by the Assembly. This expence, which, if the war continues, must be annual, I should hope may convince the Assembly of the necessity of coming into Vigorous measures to dislodge the French from the Ohio, for while they continue there we have no reason to expect the Indians will return to their dependance upon us.

In a late Interview I had with some Indians at Carlisle, I learnt that our enemy Indians had fixed upon a place upon the east branch of Susquehanna, called Nescopecken, for their head-quarters, from whence they sent out partys to annoy us, and as I have some thoughts of building a Fort at the forks of Susquehanna I have sent two trusty Indians to procure me intelligence of the number and particular situation of the enemy, and whether there be any French among them, and as there is a constant communication between the Indians on Susquehanna and those on the Ohio, and probably between them and the French; I am in hopes these Messengers may bring me some accounts of the number and circumstances of the garrison at Fort Duquesne.

I am Sir, &c.

Indorsed.

Feb^{ry} 2^{d}, 1756. Df^{t} to Col^{o} Washington.

Gov. Morris, to Capt. Burd, 1756.

P'da, 3d Febry, 1756.

Sr:

I have just recd ye melancholy Accot of a fresh party of Indians falling again upon ye Settlemt on Juniata, & of their having murder'd & carry'd off above 15 of ye People there, as I suppose you must have heard; And am equally surprized & concerned to find (notwithstanding ye pressing Orders I gave so long ago) yt you should immediately proceed to the Fort at Kishekoquillor, & should afterwards go wth Capt Patterson & some of yours & his Companys to Matchitongo and lay out a fort there. That you were gone to ye Suggar Cabbins, and that nothing is yet done in pursuance of those orders.

As the Indians who committed those last murders must have pas'd near where ye Fort was order'd to be built at Matchitongo, will not a good deal of ye Mischief be imputed to yours & Capt Patttersons remissness? But if you & he had, agreeable to my Orders, been upon Duty in that Neighbourhood, may it not, wth too much justice be say'd, ye Indians would not have venturned to have pass'd that way to the Settlemts.

I had gt dependence on your Care, & Vigilance to get those Forts built & garrisoned with ye utmost expedition, & am exceeding Sorry to find my Expectations so much disappointed, And hope I shall hear very soon yt you & Capt Patterson have doubled your diligence, & yt they are in yt forwardness, & yt every body abt you are exerting themselves & doing all in their power towds stopping ye Carreer of those merciless Savages.

I have not had a line from you nor Capt Patterson since I left Cumberd.

Indorsed.

Dr Lre to Capt Burd, 3d Feb'ry, 1756.

Gov. Morris to Lieut. Spearing, 1756.

Pda, 3d Febry, 1756.

Sr:

I am pleas'd to find by yors of the 29th Janry, yt you got well to Reading wth all your Company, and hope you will meet wth every thing there agreeable to you.

I have just recd a melancholly Pe of Intelligence from Cumberland County, yt a fresh pty of Indians are again fallen upon ye Settlemts, on Juniata, & have murder'd & carry'd off several of ye people there to ye number of 15 or upwds, & as it is much to be fear'd they will take their range all along our Frontier, & be making In-

cursions & Attempts on every place they shall find ye weakest guarded, & may be soon expected in ye neighbourhood of Reading, I doubt not you will always take care y^t your People be vigilant and sober, & constantly on their guard & prepar'd to oppose any Designs of ye Enemy on y^t Town, as well by Day as by Night, & I shou'd be very sorry to hear of any complaints ag^st them for remissness in their Duty or other Misdemeanours, & am.

To Lieu^t. W^m. Spearing, Commander of a
Detachm^t of Regulars posted at Reading.

Indorsed.

Draft Letter to Lieutenant Spearing,
Feby 3^d, 1756.

Gov. Morris to Gen. St. Clair, 1756.

Feby 5th, 1756.

Sir:

Upon my return to this town from the frontiers, where I have been putting things into something like a military posture, I found your favour of the 22^d of Jan^ry., agreeable to directions I had some time ago from Genl Shirley, I appointed Commissioners, who, in conjunction with M^r. Commissary Leake, are to settle and adjust the accounts of the waggons, horses, and other demands upon the Publick, and they are gone to Lancaster with M^r. Lessley and M^r. Scott, for that purpose, and I am satisfied will do all the Justice, both to the Crown and the persons concerned, that the nature of the thing will admit of.

You may be assured I shall afford M^r. Lessley all the assistance in my power in the service he is employed in, and the terms are so good that I doubt not of your success, men used to cannoes and boats upon these Rivers will make very good Batteau men, and we have numbers in this town & Province.

My Assembly met yesterday, and I have recomended it to them to take part in the operations concerted for the next summer, but cannot yet say what they will enable me to do.

I have Letters from Govr Dinwiddie, informing me that the Cherokees & Catawbas have agreed to take part with us; and have already sent 130 of their Warriors to Joyn the Virginia troops, and propose to make 'em up a thousand in the Spring.

I hope you are perfectly recoverd of your wound, and if his Majestys service will admit of your seeing this place before you move to the northward, it will give pleasure to Sir.

Sr John St. Clair.

Indorsed.

Draft Letter to Sr John St. Clair.
5 Feb^ry, 1756.

Rev. Thos. Barton to Rev. Rich'd Peters, 1756.

Rev^d dear Sir,

I am in Hopes this will find you in better Health, than when I parted with you at Carlisle.

I am heartily sorry that I must grieve you with an Account of a most inhuman Murder, committed by the Indians, at Juniata & Sherman's Creek, on the 27th of last Month.

Within three miles of Patterson's Fort was found Adam Nicolson and his wife, dead & scalp'd, his two Sons & a Daughter are carried off; William Wilcock & his wife, dead & scalp'd; Hugh Micheltree, & a Son of s^d Nicolson, dead & scalp'd, with many Children, in all about 17.

The same Day, one Sherridan, a Quaker, his wife, three Children & a Servant, were kill'd & scalp'd, together with one W^m. Hamilton, & his Wife, his Daughter, & one French, within Ten Miles of Carlisle, a little beyond Stephen's Gap.

It is dismal, Sir, to see the Distresses of the People; Women & Children screaming & lamenting, Men's Hearts failing them for Fear under all the Anguish of Despair. The Inhabitants over the Hills are entirely fleeing, so that in two or three Days the North Mountain will be the Frontier. Industry droops, & all Sorts of Work seem at an End. In short, Sir, it appears as if this Part of the Country breath'd its last.

I remember you dreaded this Blow would be struck in Feb^ry; And now we know that our Danger hastens with the Encrease of the Moon, & we expect nothing but Death & Ruin every night.

M^r. Smith will shew you a Sketch of a Plan drawn up here; I believe nothing but some such Scheme will save us.

Be pleas'd, Sir, to present my Respects to his Honour; For God's Sake make our Condition known; Let me hear how you do, And be assur'd,

I am, Dr Sir,

With great Esteem,

Your most affectionate and

Most obed^t Servt,

THO. BARTON.

Redding, Feb^ry 6th, 1756.

Indorsed.

Thomas Barton, 16 Feb^ry, 1756.

Gov. Morris to Gen Shirley, 1756.

Feby. 9th, 1756.

Dr Sir:

I am at last returned to this Town from a fatiguing Journey upon the frontiers, where I have been putting things into as good a posture of defence as the nature of our government will admit, and find that without some Law for the establishment of Military Discipline among the troops in the pay of the Province, a great deal of money will be expended without doing the good it otherwise would.

For the Defence of our western frontiers, I have caused four forts to Be built beyond the Kitticktiny Hills, The one stands upon the new Road opend by this Province towards the Ohio, and about twenty miles from the settlements, and I have calld it Fort Lytellton, in Honour of my friend Sr George. This fort will not only Protect the inhabitants in that part of the Province, but being upon a road that within a few miles Joyns Genl Braddocks rout, it will prevent the march of any regulars that way into the Province, and at the same time serve as an advanced post or magazine, in case of an attempt to the westward. For these reasons I have Caused it to be built in a regular form, so that it may in little time and at a small expence be so strengthened as to hold out against cannon.

About twenty miles northward of Fort Lytellton, at a place calld Aughwick, another fort is Erected something larger than fort Lytellton, which I have taken the Liberty to Honour with the name of Fort Shirley. This stands near the great Path used by the Indians and Indian Traders, to and from the Ohio, and consequently the easiest way of access for the Indians into the settlements of this Province.

Fifteen miles northeast of Fort Shirley, near the mouth of a Branch of the Juniata called Kishequokilis, a third fort is erected, which I have called Fort Granville. This Fort commands a narrow pass where the Juniata falls throngh the mountains which is so circumstanced that a few men can maintain it against a much greater number, as the rocks are very High on each side, not above a gun shot assunder, and and thus extended for six miles, and leads to a considerable settlement upon the Juniata, between Fort Granville and where that River falls into the Susquehanna.

From fort Granville towards Susquahana, at the distance of fifteen miles, and about twelve from the River, another Fort is Erected that commands that country, and is intended to prevent the Indians from penetrating into the Settlements from that quarter. This I have called Pomfret Castle, and in each of these forts I have posted a Company in the pay of the Province, consisting of seventy-five men, exclusive of officers who are from time to time to detach partys to Range and scour the woods Each way, from the several forts, by which means the Indians will be prevented from falling upon the in-

habitants, and these Soldiers by the next summer will become expert woodsmen, and proper rangers, to attend an army in case it should be thought necessary to march one to the westward.

On the East side of the Susquahana, between that and the Delaware, are three forts at three of the most important passes through the mountains, the Principal and only Regular one is at a pass calld Tolihiao, which I named fort Henry, the others are called Fort Allen & Fort Lebanon, and between these and in the same Range, there are small Staccados erected at the distance of about ten miles from each other, and the whole are garrisond with companys and detachments from fifty to twenty men each, according as the places are situated, and are of more or less importance. The troops stationed here are to employ themselves in ranging the woods, in the same manner as those on the west side the Susquehana.

Were these troops under military Discipline, I should think our frontiers well guarded, but I have it not in my Power, tho' they are regularly inlisted to Punish any of them for want of an order from the Crown, to hold Court Martials, which I believe you can supply and I propose to write to you upon that head, in case my assembly now sitting Do not pass an act to put those troops under a proper Discipline.

Inclosed I send you what I have said to my assembly upon the plan of operations, which I laid before them, but am quite unable to form a Judgm^t of what they will do in it, If the more Northern government could undertake to Carry on the Crown Point Expedn, I have some reason to think this Province would in that case enter willingly into one against Fort Duquesno.

The Regulars you favoured me with are in very good order, and are posted at the two towns of Reading and Easton, where Both the officers and men are taken good Care of to their own satisfaction, and prove a great protection not only to the towns where they are placed but to the whole Country about them.

Some days ago I had a letter from Govr Dinwiddie, informing me that in a treaty he had held with the Cherokee & Catawba nations of Indians, he had prevailed on them to take up the Hatchet against the French and their allies the Shawonese. That one hundred and thirty of them had Joynd some of the Virginia Troops, and were gone against one of the Shawonese towns upon the Ohio, and he had reason to believe they would Joyn him with a thousand warriors in the Spring. His success in this treaty will in great measure render the meeting you proposed wth the Southern Indians unnecessary however, I have recomended it to my assembly to send 'em some thing on the part of this Province as you will observe in my message.

Indorsed.

Df^t to Genl. Shirley.

Francis West to William West, 1756.

Carlisle, 9th Feb^ry, 1756.

Dr Broth^r,

Last Night I Got Home, and Found No Alteration Among the People, only Thirty or more of Capt. Burd's & Capt. Paterson's Men were obliged to Come here to Guard Provisions to the two Forts, wch they very much Want, the Country People not Daring to Venture over Since the Late Murders; the Above Guard Brings Word that the two Lackins's, Both Indians, were Killed by the Soldiers at Aughwich; the Particulars of wch is Nearly Thus:

They were at Croghan's fort where they Rec^d Presents, & made Large Promises to Bring in a Large number of Indians, and on their Goeing away Invited one of the Soldiers to Goe out a Little way to drink a Little Whiskey, wch he Consented to, & after they went a Small Distance off they Stabbed him on the Ribbs, but not mortally; as anoth^r man was Goeing by, who Seeing the Soldier Bloody, alarmed the Fort, on wch A Command of about 13 Men were order'd out after them, when they Came Up wth Indians, they Imediately fired on the Soldiers, & wounded one of them Called English Dick, in the Leg or Thigh, on wch the Indians were Surrounded & one of them Killed, the oth^r they thought to take alive, but wou'd not Submit, So was obliged to Kill him; it was anoth^r Indian, not the White Mingoe that Brought off M^r. Croghan's Servt, & Montuor's Broth^r is Still at Aughwich; this all that is New at present.

I am y^r most affect. Broth^r,

FRANS. WEST.

Directed.—To M^r. William West, in Philadelphia. To be forwarded by M^r. Geo. Gibson.

Indorsed.—Francis West's Letter to his Brother.

Col. Thomas Gage to Gov. Morris, 1756.

New York, Feb^ry 9th, 1756.

Dear Sir,

Your obliging Letter gave me great Pleasure in acquainting me of your safe Arrival in Philadelphia, after your Military Expedition to the Frontiers; & I receive infinite Satisfaction in finding you have so disposed Matters there, as to prevent any future Massacres of the poor Inhabitants. It's reported here that The Virginians, assisted by a Number of Cherokees, are going against The Shawanese, in

which, if they are so fortunate as to Succeed, it may be very instrumental in keeping the Savages at a Distance from your Frontiers, thro' the Apprehensions of being attacked at Home.

Burton, by the last Acc^ts from Albany, was perfectly well, & I expect to see Him here in a few Days, as He will be obliged to get every Thing in readiness for The Reg^t to take The Field, & must have some Conference with Black Tom before His Departure for England. The Packet brought no News but the Military Promotions; another is soon expected, which will probably bring Acc^ts of The Debates on The Subsidy Bill, to which a Strong Opposition is expected.

I am now in great Hopes that I shall be able in a few Days to pay Respects to you in Philadelphia, and if I shall have occasion to accept of your kind Offer of Horses, &c., Shall take the Liberty to trouble you with a Line. I beg you will in the mean Time make my best Compliments to M^r. Allen, M^r. Hamilton, and M^r. Peters, & believe me, with great sincerity,

Dear Sir,

your most Obedient

& faithful Servt,

THOS. GAGE.

Indorsed.—Col^l. Gage.

Gov. Morris to Sir Chas. Hardy, 1756.

Philad., Feb. 12, 1756.

Sir,

I heartily congratulate you on the readiness with which your Assembly have resolved to take the part assigned them in the Crown Point Expedition, which shews their zeal for the Cause, and I am in hopes their Example will have a good Effect upon the other Provinces, that it might upon mine; I sent their resolve immediately to the Assembly, but I am not yet informed of what they intend as to that Exped^n, but from their delay am apprehensive they are not very inclinable to follow the example your Province have set.

The Recruiting officers here have taken a good number of Servants upon a late order from Genl. Shirley, which has greatly disobliged the people, and the Assembly have addressed me upon the head complaining of it as a grievance, contrary to Law and destructive of the rights and propertys of the people. This is a matter that once before in the administration of Govr. Thomas threw this Province into great confusion, and tho' I have no doubt concerning the rights of the Crown to the personal service of its subjects in defence

of the Dominions, let their private contracts be what they will, yet in the present Case I wish the regiments could have been completed by other means, as it lays a heavy and very unequal Burthen upon the inhabitants of this Province, and I am affraid will put my Assembly into such a temper as may hinder them from taking the proper part in the Measures concerted for the Common safety, which however I shall do all in my Power to prevent.

We have an acc^t that three English ships of the Line are arrived in Chesopeak Bay, but I am not sure it is to be depended on.

Indorsed,

Draft to Sr Charles Hardy, 12 Feb^y, 1756.

Extract of a Letter, Dated Charlestown, 1756.

Near the Waterees ye upper end of this Province, We Saw a pretty many of the Catawba Indians, amongst who^m Was their King, who had lately been With a Justice, at whose House we Dined, request^s him to find an Express to this Province, letting him know that with his Approbation they were Ready & Willing to Join y^r Brethren the Cherokee Indians in taking up the Hatchett against the French & Indians to the Northward.

Indorsed.—Catawbas, Febr'y, 1756

Gov. Sharpe to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Sir,

Your Letters of the 1st* & 2^d Inst, as well as one dated the 29th† of Januy., I am favoured with, & am much obliged to you for acquainting me with the Steps you have taken to prevent any future Incursions of the Indians, & for your promise that I shall not long remain ignorant of the Result of the Treaty that was about to be held at Col^o Johnson's. Your Request in favour of Munier & Le blanc shall be complied with, whenever they desire to return to Phil^a; the wife & Family of the first are here, the other is gone to look for his, in a distant part of the Province. Our Assembly meets the 20th: I am afraid they will not be much inclined to comply with General Shirley's Requisition, by sending Troops to act in Conjunction with those of the Eastern Govern^ts., for by what I can find, they think the General has taken Men enough hence already, & will not be reconciled to the Officers enlisting Servants in pursuance of their Re-

* See p. 557. † See p. 556.

cruiting Instructions. I hope the Regiments are nearly completed, or that the General will very shortly countermand such Orders, otherwise I don't know to what Lengths the People's Resentment might carry them. We are told that the Packett from Falmouth is arrived at N. York. I should be glad to learn what is done or in Agitation at home, if any Letters that came by her, directed for me, lye in your Post Office, I should be extremely obliged to you for getting, and sending them hither by Express, else as the Post from Philadelphia to Annapolis is so very irregular, I may not get them this Month. In what Temper does Your Assembly meet, or have they granted any farther Supplies? if they set us a laudable Example, be kind enough to intimate as much.

To Sir,

Your most humble

& most obed. Servant

HORO. SHARPE.

Annapolis,
Feby. the 14, 1756.

Indorsed.

Govr. Sharpe, Feb. 14, 1756.
Read in Council, 4 March, 1756.

Gov. Morris to Sir. Chas. Hardie, 1756.

Philad^a, 15th, Feby. 1757.

Sir:

I rec^d. your favour of ye 9th Ins^t, & cannot but think wth you y^t ye Speech of ye French Officer, of wch you sent me a Copy, was only a piece of Finesse, calculated to intimidate and induce those Indians either to join wth them or to stand neuter. But tho' it seems impracticable for them, at this Season of ye year, to carry into execution their Threat of attacking ye Fort at Oswego, yet I wish ye Indian who sent this piece of Intelligence, had also immediately communicated it to ye Command^r of ye Fort, y^t he might have been upon his guard, & prepared for it.

I fear Col. Johnson was deceived in ye Indian he employ'd to carry his Message to ye Delawares, & y^t he did not report faithfully their Answer; for besides ye Intelligence sent me by Scarroyady & And^w. Montour y^t ye Delawares declared they would pay no regard to any Message ye 6 Nations should send them in our favour, there has never since been any Intermission of their ravages & Murders upon our back Inhabitants, and so lately as on or ab^t ye 28th of last Month they fell upon & destroy'd some of our Settlem^ts. upon Juniatta, at

Shermans Valley, by Canaleways, and murder'd or carry'd off above 40 of ye people.

I rejoice with you on your Success in prevailing on your Assembly to make an Addition to His Ma'tie's present for ye Indians, & I shall press ye Assembly here to do something in y^t way, &, if I succeed, shall have ye honour to write you further upon something in y^t way.

The time, as you observe, fixt for ye Packet's Stay, is indeed too short for ye remote Governm^ts sending their Dispatches in time for to return, & I hope on your representation of ye matter, it will be prolonged.*

Indorsed,

Governor Morris to Sir. Charles Hardie, 16te Febry. 1756.

Wm. Trent to Richard Peters, 1756.

Carlisle, Sunday Evening, 15 Feb^y, 1756.

Sir:

Wensday Evening two Lads were taken or killed at the Widow Cox's, just under Parnelle's Nob, and a Lad who went from McDowell's Mill to see what fire it was never returned, the Horse coming back with the Reins over his Neck; they burnt the House and Shot down the Cattle. Just now came News that a Party of Indian Warriors were come out against the Inhabitants from some of the Sasquehannah Towns, and yesterday some People who were over in Shurman's Valley, discovered fresh Tracts; all the People have left their Houses betwixt this and the Mountain, some come to Town and others gathering into little Forts; they are moving their Effects from Shippensburgh, every one thinks of flying; unless the Government fall upon some effectual Method, & that immediately, of securing the Frontiers, there will not be one Inhabitant in this Valley one Month longer. There is a few of us endeavour to keep up the Spirits of the People. We have proposed going upon the Enemy to-morrow, but whether a Number sufficient can be got I cannot tell, no one scarce seems to be effected with the distress of their Neighbours, and for that reason none will Stir but those that are next the Enemy & in immediate danger. A Fort in this Town would have saved this part of the County, but I doubt this Town in a few days will be deserted if this party that is out should kill any people nigh here. I was of opinion the Forts, as they were built, would be of no service; I was laughed at for it, but now the Inhabitants here

* See the letter to which this is an answer, in Colonial Records, Vol. VII. p. 41.

are convinced of it. I wrote for the Militia, and Expect an answer by the Post.

I am in Haste, Sir,

Your most humb. S^t^,

WILLIAM TRENT.

Directed.
To Richard Peters, Esqr,
in Philadelphia.

Indorsed.—Wm. Trent, 15 Febr'y, 1756.

Gov Morris to Gen. Shirley, 1756.

Philad^a^, 16 Feb^y^, 1756

Sir:

I have the Honor to enclose you an adress from the Assembly of this Province to me, relating to the inlistment of Indentured servants, and my answer to it; you will observe by the former how disagreable that matter is to them, and the reasons they offer against it are certainly cogent and strong, and I am satisfied your great regard for the people of this country will induce you to put a stop to a practice so injurious to the propertys of many of them, if it can be done Consistent with his Majesty's service and the gen^l^ Interest of this continent. As to the Legality of inlisting servants, no one can Judge better of that matter than yourself, whose knowledge and abilities in the laws of England make you perfectly acquainted with the rights both of the King and people.

I shall only say, that I am fearfull this affair of the serv^ts^ will throw my Assembly into such a temper as may hinder them from taking the part they otherwise would in the operations of the year.

Directed.—General Shirley.

Indorsed.—Dft. to Genl Shirley, Feb^ry^ 16th, 1756.

Edward Shippen to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Honoured Sir:

The People who supplied Waggons & Horses for the Use of General Braddock's Army, understood by Commisary Leake, when the Commissioners were settling their Acco^ts^, that their money should be paid in this Borough on the 20th Instant; but as he is since gone away, they are very uneasie lest they should be obliged to go to

* See Gov. Shirley's reply, on page 587.

Philad^a for their money, which would be a great Hardship, especially to the poorer Sort; many of whom live in Cumberland County, and can neither bear the Expences of so long a Journey, nor would chuse to be long absent from their Wives & Children in these dangerous times, while the Enemy continues on the Frontiers.

Your Honour will be pleased to excuse this Freedom, and if I can be of any use in this Affair, Your Honour may freely command.

Sir,

Your most Affectionate,

Humble Servant,

EDW^D. SHIPPEN.

Lancaster, 17th Feb. 1756.

Directed.—To the Honble the Governor.

Indorsed.—Feb^ry 17th, 1756. Mr. Shippen.

Gov. Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Boston, 17th Feb^y, 1756.

Sir,

I have this day given Orders to the Commanding Officer of the Detachment of His Majesty's Troops in Pensilvania, to march from thence so as to be at the City of New York by the 15th day of March next. I make no doubt you will do every thing in your Honour's power to expedite their March, nor of your giving the necessary Orders for providing them with Carriages, Quarters, and Provisions.

I am, with the greatest Regard,

Your Honour's most Obedient

and most Humble Servant,

W. SHIRLEY.

Directed.—The Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr,

Indorsed.—Governor Shirley, 17 Feb'ry, 1756.

Gen. Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Boston, Feb^ry 20th, 1756.

Sir,

I inclose your Honour an Extract of a Letter to me from the Major of my Regiment, which gives me extreme Concern; I doubt not but your Honour will take Care that Justice is done to his Majesty for the loss of the Sergeant, who Mr. Kinneer informs me was murther'd by the Mob in the Discharge of his Duty, & wch I am sorry to find there is so much Reason to attribute to the Encouragement given them by the Magistrates, if what Mr. Kinneer informs me is true, that they take all Servants & Apprentices who inlist into his Majesty's Service out of it, and put them in Goal, & confine the recruiting Officers.

I have already given an Instance of my great Desire that the recruiting Service should be attended wth as few Inconveniences as might be to the people, by restraining the Officers from enlisting Indented Servants, whilst I thought the King's Service would admit of it, tho' I did not conceive the least Doubt but that his Majesty had as good a Right to their Service as to that of any others, who should voluntarily inlist as Soldiers.

As the Officers have assur'd me that they cannot compleat their Regiments in time without entertaining Indented Servants, it is now become my indipensable Duty to permit them to entertain such Recruits.

If the Masters are injur'd by that, they may sue the Recruiting Officers, & the Law ought to decide the point, according to the final Judgment wch shall be given in the Case; and the sooner the point is try'd & receives such a determination, the better. In the mean time I hope that all Outrages of the populace & abuse of Civil power in the Magistrate against the Recruiting Officers will cease. If they do not, it must produce the most disagreeable Consequences in the Province under your Command.

I am, with great Regard, Sir,
Your Honour's most Humble
and most Obedient Servant,
W. SHIRLEY.

Directed.—Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr.

Indorsed.—Feb. 20, 1756. Genl Shirley. About Servants & Apprentices—with Extract of Letter from Maj^r Kinneer.

Gen. Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Boston, Feb^ry 20th, 1756.

Sir:

I inclose to your Honour, at the Request of the Assembly of this Government, a copy of their Resolves concerning the part they will take in the plan of Operations propos'd by me to them & his Majesty's other Northern Colonies, as far Westward as Virginia inclusive, for removing the Incroachments of the French at Crown point, upon the Lakes Ontario, Erie, &c., and the River Ohio; and am in hopes, the Provinces of New York, Rhode Island, Connecticutt, New Hampshire, & the Massachusetts Bay will raise Troops sufficient for the propos'd Expedition against Crown point, the last mention'd Province having, as you will perceive by the inclos'd Resolves of the Assembly, * * * * * determin'd to raise 3000 as their Quota, and if the others do in proportion, it will produce a Body of 9000 men for that Service, But unless the Governments of Virginia, Maryland, & Pensilvania send some considerable assistance, I shall not have a number sufficient for the Service propos'd on Lakes Ontario, Erie, &c., as I shall have no Troops for that Service, but his Majesty's four Regular Regiments, & the Independent Companies of New York, all which are still very incompleat & together with the Jersey Regiment of 500, will, I am affraid, fall far short of 4000 Effective men.

The Reduction of the French Forts at Niagara, & getting the Mastery of the Lake Ontario, according to his Majesty's Instructions to the late General & myself; wch expressly mention it as a more important Service than the Reduction of Fort Duquesne, is doubtless the most effectual measure for securing the Southern Colonies from the Incursions of the French & Indians, & the breaking up the possessions of the former on the Ohio and Lake Erie, as those settlements principally, if not wholly, draw their support from Canada, from wch they would be cutt off, if their passage over the Lake Ontario was barr'd; at the same time it is necessary that the western Colonies should raise a Body of men, strong enough not only to repel the Incursions of the French & their Indians, but to attempt the Reduction of Fort Duquesne; for wch Services I believe you will think 4000 men a sufficient Force.

By the inclos'd List your Honour will find that if the Governments of Virginia, Maryland & Pensilvania, do furnish their Quota for the Operations of this year, in the same manner as the Northern Colonies seem dispos'd to do, according to the proportions settled by the Commissioners at Albany in 1754; wch I don't doubt his Majesty expects, & I can't but hope they will do; they ought to raise 7284 men; & if 4000 of them will be sufficient to be employ'd on the Frontiers of those Colonies, there will remain a Body of 3284 men, which I think cannot be employ'd more to the advantage of those colonies, than on the Lake Ontario, & when join'd wth the

Troops, I intend to take with me there, will give me a sufficient Force effectually to secure that Lake, & by that one Stroke to give an irrecoverable wound to all the French Incroachments upon the Great Lake & Rivers; after wch Fort Duquesne may very easily be reduc'd in the Course of the Summer, if the French should not abandon it without waiting 'till they should be attack'd there. What an effect this would have at the same time in our favour upon all the Indians on the Continent, I need not observe.

It gives me great pleasure to find that the measures, wch Govr. Dinwiddie hath taken with the Cherokee Indians, have had so good success; I * * * * * heartily wish these measures, together with those he is pursuing with the the Catawba's may induce them to furnish the number of men, they propos'd, wch certainly will be of great Service in the Operations of the next Campaigne; 1000 of these Indians joining with 4000 men of the Southern Colonies will doubtless be sufficient to do every thing necessary on that side, & nothing seems wanting to enable us to carry every point against the French this year, but the Southern Colonies exerting themselves in the same proportion with the Eastern ones, and sending 3000 men to join the Regular Troops, intended for the Operations on the Lake Ontario, &c.

I can't but hope that your Honour will see these matters in the same light with me, & do every thing in your power with the Assembly of your Governmt to induce them to enable you to furnish the Quota of that Dominion, for repelling the French of Canada at this most critical Conjuncture, & before they are strengthen'd with fresh Reinforcements from France, from their dangerous Incroachments upon his majesty's Territories, & for putting an End to the Ravages & Depredations of them and the Indians in their Interest within the Borders of his Majesty's western Colonies upon this Continent: with regard to myself, your Honour may depend on my doing every thing in my power for the protection of the Frontiers of Pensilvania in particular.

As it is necessary that an Officer of Rank in his Majesty's Army should be appointed to take upon him the command of all the Forces rais'd in the Colonies of Pensilvania, Maryland & Virginia, & South Carolina to be employ'd in an Expedition against Fort Duquesne; I have appointed for that purpose Govr Sharpe, whom his Majesty was pleas'd before the arrival of the late General Braddock in North America, to appoint to the like but more extensive command.

I am with Esteem and Regard,
Sir, Your Honour's most Humble
and most obedient Servant,
W. SHIRLEY.

Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr.

Indorsed.

Genl Shirley, about ye operations of ye summer, 1756, and the numbers necessary.

Gov. Dinwiddie to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Williamsburg, Febry, 21st 1756.

Sir:

I recd Yours of the 1st of this Month, and observe You have made a Tour into the Back Country, and built several Forts for the Protection of Your Frontier, which surely is a necessary Work in these perilous Times, & so far necessary for the defensive Part, but I was in hopes something wou'd have been concerted either to attack Fort Duquesne, or to build a Fort on the other side of the mountains as a Barrier against the Invasions of the brutal Enemy. Colt. Washington who is gone to Gent Shirley, has my orders to call on You in his return, to know what plan of Operations is propos'd for next Campaign, & am of Opinion if Pensylvania, Maryland, Virginia, No Carolina shou'd heartily engage in an Expedition against the Enemy, the other side of the Mountains that we may be able to gall them; & the more so, as I have reason to expect a good number of the Southern Indians to join our Forces—I have wrote Gent. Shirley, if this is thought proper he shou'd appoint an Officer to command; & so send us some Ingineers to manage the Great Guns, there are four twelve Pounders of Brass sent in here, & four more at Winchester of Iron, if the General does not send for them to N. York.

I have got built a pretty many Forts in Augusta, Frederick & Hampshire, to protect our Frontiers & to remain on the Defensive till we hear from Home; my Private Letters give some glimering hopes of Peace, if so I wish the French may not out wit us in their Councils, and if Peace, I hope it will be with Honour to the Nation after the vast Expence they have been at.

Our Forces and the Cherokee Indians, as I formerly wrote You are under Orders to march against the Shawnesse, & I believe they have marched from Augusta County about ten Days. And our Comissioners to the Catawbas & Cherokees have been gone a Fortnight, I shall on their return give You acct of their Proceedings.

I hope Your Assembly will with Spirit & Resolution give You a further supply. Our Assembly meets next month, when I shall earnestly endeavour to obtain our Quota of men for Crown Point &c., but I really believe it will not be in my Power to prevail with them.

We have had 1140 Neutrals from N Scotia, which gives great uneasiness to our People, we have recd them & now maintain them by my Order & the Councils; but whether the Assembly will be prevailed on to make some Provision for them is very uncertain; & I complain of Govr Lawrence's not giving us some previous notice of their coming that we might be prepar'd to receive them.

I entreat You to send me notice what Your Assembly has done, which probably may be of Service with our People; I sincerely

wish You Health & Success in all Your Applications to them, I remain with great Regard.

Sir,

Your most h^ble Servant,

ROBT. DINWIDDIE.

Govr. Morris.

Indorsed.—Govr. Dinwiddie.

Gen. Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Boston, Feby 23, 1756.

Dear Sir :—

I am sorry to give you the trouble of the Inclos'd ; I must further beg the favour of you to give orders to some justifiable person to assist the officers, who shall be molested in the service, both with respect to their defending themselves in actions, wch may be brought ag^t them, and prosecuting in such as it may be necessary to commence ag^t others for Injuries done them. I am determin'd the point shall be brought to a peremptory, authoritative Decision from home, in some shape or other. Whatever Assistance or Advice you can give the officers, without involving yourself in any Disputes or Trouble, whatever with your Assembly or People, I shall be obliged to you for, But would by no means desire you to run the least risque of doing that.

As it seem'd necessary for me to appoint some person to the Chief Command of the Western Forces, wch should be employed in an Expedition against Fort du Quesne, &c., and the circumstances of Govr Sharpe having been appointed to a like Command before by the King, with a Brevet Commission of Lt Colonel in his Army for that purpose, I thought my self likewise under a necessity of pitching upon him for the Command, and sending a Commission to him.

I am greatly obliged to you, Dear Sir, for supplying my late son, Shirley, with the sums express'd in two notes, wch M^r. Alexander hath shew'd me, and I have order'd paym^t of, together with the balance wch you paid Captn Orme for him.

He will give directions concerning the list of things you have been so kind as to transmit to him inclos'd in your letter.

Wishing you all success and happiness in your Publick and Private Affairs, I am, most affectionately,

Dear Sir,

Your Friend and Servt,

W. SHIRLEY.

Honble R. H. Morris, Esqr.

Indorsed.

Genl Shirley—that I would favour the officers that may be distressed in the recruiting service.

Boston, Feby 23, 1756.

Gov. Morris to Gen. Shirley, 1756.

Philad., Feb. 24, 1756.

Dear Sir,

I wrote you a few days ago, & since have the honour of yours in answer to one from the President of the Council about indented Servants, and tho' the Burthen will fall much heavier upon this Province than any of the others, as we have a much greater number of Servants of that kind than any of them, Yet as his Majestys service is at this Juncture so much concerned in having the regiments filled in time, and there was little reason to think they would soon be done by the ordinary method of recruiting, I must approve of the determination you have given as to that matter, having no doubts in my own mind as to the Legality of taking into his Majestys service any subject that offers himself; for that purpose, I immediately sent your letter to the Assembly in hopes it would satisfy them, but they adjourned upon it for a week without any reason assigned, or indeed giving me notice of it. I have taken some pains to come at their intentions as to the Crown Point expedition, but cannot learn what they mean to do, or whether they will do any thing.

Immediately upon my return from the frontier counties I appointed Commissioners, in Conjunction with Mr. Leake, to settle the demands upon the Crown, for the service done by order of Genl Braddock, pursuant to your former letter to me on that head, and of your Instructions to Mr. Leake, & they sat ten days at Lancaster upon the accounts brought in by the People of this Province, which they have adjusted, and are now sitting in this town upon those of Virginia & Maryland, and in as little time as Possible, will complete and settle the whole. Mr. Leake and the other officers assure me that it would have been impossible to have settled these matters without the aid of men of weight here, and that the savings on the part of the Crown through their means will be very considerable, but as I shall send your Excellency their Report at large, when the whole is finished, I will not trouble you further upon the subject at present.

I take the Liberty to inclose you with this a map of part of this Province, west of the Sasquehana, where you will see the situation of the several forts I have caused to be erected there for the defence of the inhabitants. I am getting another map made of the Country between Sasquehana & Delaware, with the several forts and blockhouses, which I shall have the honor to send you soon, and would my assembly but oblige the People in the pay of the Province to do their duty, we might be tolerably safe, but without Discipline you are sensible no troops are to be kept long upon a disagreeable service.

Mr. Benzil has been more successful in his recruiting than any

other officer this way, having already returned as he tells me about seventy men to the regiment, he is still upon that service, and I believe meets with the same success.

Gen[l] Shirley.

Indorsed.

Dft to Gen[l] Shirley. Feb[r]y 24, 1756.

Rev. Mr. Spangenberg to Gov. M., 1756.

May it please your Honour,

I beg leave humbly to address y[r] Hon[r] on behalf of the Indian Refugees, residing for this time at Bethlehem.

It is now three months that they live here, and have behaved themselves well, and better indeed than one could expect.

We take care to give them good Instructions, and they also take them to Heart, and encourage our hopes for them.

Their children come to School, and like to be taught reading, and to hear of their Maker and Redeemer.

Now I have been informed that there are some Indians at Philadelphia, and that y[r] Honour designs to call the above mentioned Indians also down.

I must own, that I fear their meeting with other Indians, who are notorious and professed Slaves to the Devil, and who boast of their wicked ways, will prove hurtfull to their Souls. For they have not yet taken so deep Roots in the Christian Faith, that they will stand the Trials common in such Companies, at least there are many of them, who thereby could be hurted.

Could y[r] Hon[r] take a way less dangerous for them, it would be acting the part of a good and loving Father for the Country in general, and for such poor distressed creatures, who nevertheless are an object of the great Mercies of our Saviour, in particular.

Will y[r] Honour Favour me with your commands and orders, concerning the s[d] Indians here with us; I will do what I can to shew myself, as

Y[r] Honours,

most humble and

obedient Servant,

SPANGENBERG.

Bethl, Feb'y 28, 1756.

Indorsed.

Spangenburg, 28 Feb., 1756, read in Council, 4 March, 1756.

Directed.

To the Hon[ble] Robert Hunter Morris, Esq[r]., at Philadelphia.

Wm. Ogilvie to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Easton, 29th February, 1756.

Sir:

This day six of our men and one of the Granadiers deserted from hence. I have sent a Serjeant and 12 men in pursuit of them, and am in great hopes they will overtake them; if they should not, am affraid it will be of bad consequence, as 3 of them have bin Deserters from the French, and very much used to the Indians, and can talk the Indian Language. Mr. Parsons has wrote to all his friends about Bethlehem, and that way, so that I am in great hopes they will be apprehended. I cannot conceive the Reason of their going off, as they have been as well used as its posable for People to be used, Boath as to Provision and every thing else. Nothing more to add, I am with all due Regard,

Your Honours Most Obed't & most
Hum'ble Servant,
WILL. OGILVIE.

Indorsed.

Wm. Ogilvie, 29 Feb'ry, 1756, Read in Council, 4 March, 1756.

Directed

On his Majesty's Service, To the Honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr, Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania.

Sir Charles Hardy to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Fort George, New York, 29th Feb'y, 1756.

Sir,

Inclosed I send you copys of a Report of a Scouting Party under Capt. Rogers, from Fort William Henry, and the Examination of a French Prisoner taken by him, by which your Honour will see the French are moving Troops and Provisions to Crown Point, and which Post they are also Strengthening with New Works.

I am sorry to find the Colonys delay taking the necessary measures for this Years Campaign. I have not yet received any advices from the Eastern Governments, that their Assemblys have made any Provision for furnishing the quotas agreed upon at the Council of Warr held in this City, and I fear if measures are not speedily taken, we

* "Read in Council Mar. 4;" Indorsement—not noticed in Minutes.

shall be full late to hope for Success in the Expedition then agreed upon.

Last Night I received an Express from Ulster County, that a Body of Indians supposed to be about 30 or 40, had crossed the Delaware, and destroyed the House, Barns, &c., of one Phillip Swartwoudt, there were eight Men and one Woman in the House, in endeavouring to escape, five of the Men were kill'd, the Woman taken Prisoner, and three men escaped to a Neighbouring Settlement.

Sometime ago I received information that one Baron Lahe Willum Augustin Davis, was travelling the Country, and had found upon him several Plans, some of the Forts of Oswego, and the Fortifications of this City; upon a further enquiry, I found this fellow to be a Soldier in General Shirley's Regiment, and from Major Kinneer that he had a Furlow; I judged it necessary to have this man further examined touching this matter, and desired the Major to order him to this City, which he promised me, but since he acquainted me that he was informed he was committed to some Prison in the Jerseys, upon which I wrote to Governor Belcher, who writes me for Answer, that upon inquiry he learns this man is now in Prison in Philadelphia. I doubt the French have too many People posted in these Provinces to give them information, and I cannot but think it is probable this fellow may be such, if not, as a Foreigner though engaged in Service in one of his Majesty's Regiments, he can have no business to take Plans wherever he goes. I judged it highly proper to give you this Information, and must desire the favour of you, to have this man strictly examined and searched, for Plans and several other papers my informant tells me he was very desirous of Secreting.

I am, with great Regard,

Sir,

Your most Obedient,

Humble Servant,

CHAS. HARDY.

The Hon'ble Govr Morris.

Indorsed,

Sr Charles Hardy, Feb'y 29, 1756, with the Report of a Scouting party sent to Crown Point, & the examination of a Prisoner taken by them.

Lt. Spearing to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Reading, ye 29th of Febru'y, 1756.

Sir,

I am Sorry to Informe you that Philip White, one of the deserters which I lodg'd in the County Jayle, is broke out of his Confinement and gone off; there were one man more went of with him. I find they got over the prison wall.

I had the honour of yours of the 17th* Instant, and am Sorry I can't as yet Satisfye the doctor, for it will be realy very hard for the Soldiers of Capt. Gates' Indepdt Company to pay the doctor, as there is ten ℔ Cent Stopt in England from their neat Subsistence for to pay Surgeons and Chaplens, and thirefore have no right to pay heare, nor is it Customery for them So to do; as for the Soldiers of General Shirley's Regiment, I Suppose they are on a diferent establishment; however, I would pay the money with pleasure if your honour orders it, as it will be pittey he Should loose Such a trifal of money, when it appears he realy deserves it.

I am, Sir,
your honour's most Oblig'd
and humble Servt,
WM. SPEARING.

Directed,
(On his Majesty's Service.) To the Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Governour of Pennsylvinia, at Philedelphia.

Indorsed,
Wm. Spearing, 29 Febr'y, 1756.

Gen'l Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Boston, Febry 29th, 1756.

Sir,

Yesterday late in the Evening I receiv'd the Favour of your Letter, dated the 16th Instant,† inclosing a Copy of the Assembly's Address to you on the 11th, containing a Remonstrance against the Practice us'd at present by the Officers now recruiting within your Province of entertaining Indented Servants.

Tho' I have very lately wrote to you, Sir, upon this Head, and might rest the point in dispute upon your very reasonable, just & clear Answer to the Address, yet, at the Instance of your Assembly

* See it, p. 566. † See it on p. 576. Also Col. Rec., Vol. VII., p. 45.

to lay the matter complain'd of before me for my Consideration, I have reconsider'd it, & now transmit to you my further Sentiments & final Determination thereon.

The Restraint I lately lay'd the Recruiting Officers under, by by forbidding them to inlist Indented Servants, (which the Assembly themselves referr to in their Address) must convince them how tender I am of suffering his Majesty's Service under my Care to break unnecessarily into the Contracts of these Servants with their Masters or their Assigns, & depriving the latter of any part of the Service they * * * * originally Indented for.

Though it was my settled clear Opinion, that the King has a Right to the Service of Indented Servants, as well as other Volunteers; and it is Evident that a Liberty to enlist them must make the Recruiting Officers' Duty easier, & fill his Majesty's Regiments much sooner, & at a less Expence to them; yet, whilst I flatter'd myself with Hopes that the Officers might be able to compleat their Regiments in time for the King's Service, without entertaining Indented Servants, I chose to put them under this Restraint, rather than subject the Masters to the Inconveniencies & Hardships, which I am very sensible they frequently suffer from their Servants being indiscriminately inlisted in his Majesty's Service; For this Reason I never allow'd the Officers either of my former or present Regiment to inlist such Servants, always disapprov'd of the practice of it [when unnecessary] in others, and since being invested with my present Command, forbid it in all as long as the Circumstances of his Majesty's Service would admit.

But this is not now the Case, Sir, his Majesty's Orders to augment his Regiments to 1000 Men each are positive; The Execution of them before the opening of this Year's Campaigne is necessary for the preservation of his just Rights & Dominions upon this Continent against the Incroachments & Invasions of the French, & to secure his Subjects from the further Devastations wch it must otherwise be expected they will soon make within these Colonies; The Recruiting Officers have represented to me that it will be impracticable to compleat their Regiments in time for the Service if I continue my former Restraint upon them; The Season is now far advanc'd, and the Preparations of the Enemy to distress his Majesty's Colonies in every part are pushing on very fast, of which the late Ravages committed at their Instigation within the Borders of Pensilvania by Indians, some of which were before at peace with that Government, and others in friendship with it, should be a most alarming Proof to the Assembly.

The Assembly will not infer, that because I judg'd it expedient to forego his Majesty's Right to the Service of Indented Servants in favour of their Masters, whilst I apprehended such an Indulgence would not disappoint the raising a sufficient Force for repelling the Enemy from his Territories, and the protection of his Subjects in North America, it can therefore be my Judgement that it is either consistent with my Duty to the King, or the Safety of his Subjects

within these Colonies to continue this Indulgence at a time when the great Interests of both are so apparently at Stake, & such ruinous Consequences may ensue from it to all his Majesty's Governments upon this Continent.

The Illegality of enlisting Indented Servants, Sir, which is asserted throughout the Address, seems to be there ultimately founded in this Argument, that every Person must have the same absolute property in what he purchases that he had in the purchase Money. Many Instances might be cited to shew that this Position is not universally true; and as to the Case of Indented Servants, the Supposition that the King is precluded by the Contracts between them & their Masters from the Rights he before had to their Service for the Defence of his Dominions, is not founded in the Nature of the Government in general, & is contrary to the Practice of it in the English Constitution.

A Discussion of these Points at large would lead into too wide a Field for the Compass of this Letter, it may suffice to shew what the Practice upon them is in these Colonies; & in doing this, I shall confine myself to that within the Province of the Massachusetts Bay, the Constitution of wch, as it is a Charter Government, will I suppose be admitted to be decisive in the Case.

The Governor of this Province, by Virtue of the Power given him by the Charter for raising the Militia, of wch I presume Indented Servants will be allow'd to be a part in every Colony, constantly impresses such Servants to be employ'd in marching Companies or Garrison Duty, for the protection of the Province as long as he thinks his Majesty's Service shall require it; and in one or other of these Duties they are frequently kept two or three Years: and with the Consent of the Great and General Assembly of the Province, the Govr. hath power to transport any number of the Militia out of it, either by Sea or Land, to be employ'd against the Enemy.

When Forces were rais'd by the Province for the Expeditions against Cape Breton, upon the River Kennebeck, & against Crown point, Indented Servants inlisted into them in common with others; & to compleat the Reinforcements sent into the last mention'd Service, many such Servants were impress'd by the Government.

When others were rais'd within the Province in the pay of the Crown for the Expeditions against Canada, & to remove the French from their Incroachments in Nova Scotia, Indented Servants inlisted into them.

These Instances, I think, Sir, afford in the whole a clear proof of the King's Right to the Service of Indented Servants inhabiting the Province of the Massachusetts Bay for the Defence of his Dominions, at least in North America; & that no Contract between them and the Masters can extinguish either this Government's Right to impress them into the before mention'd Service, or the Servant's Right voluntarily to inlist into it; and it seems a just Conclusion to say, if this Power of taking Indented Servants from their Masters for

his Majesty's Service is consistent with the civil Rights of the Subject in a Charter Government, & the Property wch Masters have in those Servants there; it is at least equally so in Pensilvania, that the Recruiting Officers in that Province should entertain such Servants, when they voluntarily inlist into the King's Regiments, unless it can be shewn that the Pensilvania Masters have some special property in their Servants, which the Massachusetts Masters have not, & which destroys his Majesty's Right to their Service for the Defence of his American Dominions against the common Enemy; But this, I have before observed, is not founded in the Nature of Governmt in general, & is contrary to the Practice of it in the English Constitution.

As to the inlisting of Indented Servants into his Majesty's Regiments upon the Establishment whenever officers of such Regiments have recruited within the Province of the Massachusetts Bay, more or less of those Servants have ever inlisted into them; particularly when Recruiting Officers of the Forces employ'd in the Expedition against the Spanish Settlements in the West Indies arriv'd there from Jamaica, many indented Servants inlisted with them, & were transported to Cuba.

I am not ignorant that Pensilvania hath afforded great Numbers of Recruits to the King's Forces; but am not of Opinion with the Assembly, that they are equal to those wch have been rais'd in the Province of the Massachusetts Bay for my own & Sir William Pepperell's Regiments, & the three Regiments of Nova Scotia within those fourteen Months, wch may be computed at upwards of 1500 Men; besides which near 6000 have been rais'd within it the last year for the Expeditions against the French Incroachments in Nova Scotia & against Crown Point, & the number of Soldiers rais'd in it over and above all these for the protection of its Frontier exceeds, I believe, the Body of Men employ'd by the Government of Pensilvania for the defence of theirs.

The Assembly complain that their Province is extremely drain'd of their Labourers; I think, Sir, that Pensilvania hath not been near so much exhausted of them as the Massachusetts Bay hath been by his Majesty's Service. In the Expedition against Cape Breton that Province lost 2000 Men at least, by Sea & Land, & upwards of 500 the year following in the protection of Nova Scotia. The employing of any considerable Body of Troops for the Defence of the Frontier of Pensilvania is a new Service within that Government; but hath ever taken up a great number of Men in time of peace as well as War within the Massachusetts Bay. The Province of the Massachusetts Bay hath as few Slaves within it as Pensilvania; the number of its Inhabitants constantly employ'd in its Fisheries, Ship-building, Lumber Trade & navigation greatly diminish the number of it's hands for Agriculture & other Labour, & it hath not the Benefit of those Ressources for augmenting it's Inhabitants from the Northern parts of Germany, &c., wch hath for many years so

greatly increas'd the People of Pensilvania, yet thus exhausted as it is, the Government raises no Obstacles to the Recruiting of his Majesty's Forces within it, and hath besides chearfuly voted to raise a number of Troops, wch amount to a ninth part of it's fighting Men, this year, towards the Defence of his just Rights and Dominions upon this Continent; an example wch I can't but hope the Assembly of Pensilvania will think the Interest of the Province, as well as their Duty to the Crown, call upon them to follow.

The Assembly observe in their Address how great a Quantity of Provisions their Province supplies the King's Army with. This, Sir, seems to be an advantage, wch should make them easier under the Inconveniences, wch attend his Majesty's Service in other Respects, and when they consider that all the Men, wch are now drawing out of Pensilvania for recruiting the King's Forces, will be employ'd in that part of his Service, which more immediately concerns the protection of the Inhabitants of that Province against the growing Incroachments of the French; they should as readily acquiesce in parting with some of their indented Servants as any Charter Colony doth.

It is not necessary to enter into a Minute Examination of every part of the Deduction, made by the Assembly, of the mischievous Consequences, which arise to the Community from the inlisting of Indented Servants into his Majesty's Service; some of them seem too remote: when a Country is in danger of being lost to the Enemy, it is not a time for the Governmt of it to enter into critical Dissertations whether the inlisting of Indented Servants for the Defence of it may not have a tendency to lessen the Importation of them into the Country for future tillage of the Land, & to increase that of Slaves. It would certainly have been more happy for the Province of Pensilvania to have lost the Service of some of their bought Servants last year in defending their Frontiers against the Incursions of the Enemy, than to have suffer'd the cruel Ravages and Depopulation committed by them within their Borders.

I have already acknowledg'd that Inconveniences & Hardships frequently arise to Individuals from the inlisting of Indented Servants into the King's Regiments. I am as ready now as ever to do every thing in my power consistent with his Majesty's Service to remedy such as have happen'd or may hereafter happen in the Province of Pensilvania or elsewhere. His Majesty hath order'd his Regiments employ'd in North America for the defence of his just Rights and Dominions, & protection of his Subjects there to be forthwith augmented to 1000 Men each, out of such of the Inhabitants of those Colonies as will inlist into his Service; he hath an undoubted Right to do this. If it can't be done without receiving Indented Servants into the Regiments, to forbid the Entertainment of them, or order them to be discharg'd without being replac'd by other Effective Men would very probably defeat the Service, for wch the Regiments were order'd by his Majesty to be augmented, which

the Assembly, I am persuaded, will upon further Consideration think would be a most unwarrantable proceeding in the King's Gen[l]. The only Orders, I can justify sending the Officers, upon this Occasion, w[ch] I shall take care to do, will be to release such Indented Servants as are willing to return to their Masters, upon having good effective Men offer'd in Exchange for them; as to receiving them at first into the Service, in cases, which shall appear extremely hard to the Officers, they are at liberty to refuse it, & will, I doubt not, act with Discretion; the Intention of my last Orders was only to take off the Restraint I had before lay'd upon them against receiving *any* Indented Servants which I should not have done, if the Regiments had met with that Success in their Recruiting, as might have been expected. It must rest with the Assembly to ease such Masters as may, notwithstanding this, sustain any great Hardships by the loss of one or more of their Servants in his Majesty's Service, and if in doing that any considerable Burthen should fall upon the whole Community, upon a Representation of it to his Majesty it will doubtless have a proper Consideration given it; and this, I can't but hope, Sir, the Assembly will, upon a cooler thought of this Affair, judge to be a more Eligible method of proceeding than to incite the populace to pursue the violent measures which the address seems to point out to them.

I am, with great Regard,
Sir,
Your Honour's most Obedient
Humble Servant,
W. SHIRLEY.

Indorsed.
General Shirley, Feb'ry 29, 1756.

Copy Gov. to Joshua Fisher, 1756.

Sir:

Being informed y[t] you are ab[t]. publishing a Chart of y[e] Bay of Delaware, wth all y[e] Sounds & Bearings, & such full Directions y[t] Strangers to y[e] Navigation of y[e] Bay, may, by y[e] help of your Draft, bring Ships into the River wth out a Pilot; Tho' this is a very useful & comendable work, yet, as at this critical juncture, when from the state of affairs in Europe, we are in daily expectation of a French War, there is y[t] reason to fear; if your map of the Bay should be published, some Copys of it may fall into y[e] Enemys Hands. I have therefore thought fit, by the advice of the Councils, to order, as I hereby do, that the Publication of that Map or Chart be postponed till a more proper time; when y[e] Danger of the Enemys pay-

ing us a visit from Sea, may be over, or this city & Province in a better condition to repell an Invasion.*

Philad^a., 4th March, 1756.
To Joshua Fisher.

Indorsed—

Draught Lre. to Joshua Fisher, approved in Council, 4 March, 1756.

Joshua Fisher to R. Peters, 1756.

Philadelphia.

Friend
Richard Peters

In Conformity to the Governor's Orders of yesterday, I thought it a point of duty to inform the Governor what is subjoin'd Concerning the Chart of Delaware Bay, just publish^d, which, if thou will please to Communicate to him to know his further Pleasure, shall take it as a singular favour.

When I undertook many years ago to take a survey of Delaware Bay, in order to draw a Chart thereof, being encouraged thereto by sundry persons, among whom was our Propriatary Thomas Penn, to whom I was recommended by the Magistrates for a D. Surveyor, & so being furnish'd with Materials about two years ago, was again apply'd to by sundry persons, Merchants & others, to get the work perfected; with whom I consented to do it, provided I could get Subscriptions to defray only the Charge of Engraving & printing them, & agreeing with a Workman to accomplish. It amounted to near a hundred Pounds Cur^y., for which Subscriptions were then taken of the Gentlemen of this City to the said Am^t., & as the Expence as well as my own great pains & trouble in the above; the latter I am very easy about, only therefore request, as the Plates are Engraved, & a quantity of Coppies struck off, that I may have the liberty to deliver to the Gentlemen who have subscribed to defray the Charge of £100 as above, otherwise it will be very oppressive to bear so great an Expence, besides my own time & trouble, when the motive for doing it was at the repeated Solicitation of many Considerable Men, & also, in point of humanity, for the saving Mens Lives & Estates, having been eye witness of many vessels & cargoes lost, & the people sometimes with them, for want of knowledge, in the Bay; & as I had observed that Correct Charts were publish^d of many Harbours in North America, where I had been, especially those places where Men of War come, as they generally have Artists qualified for such

* See J, Fisher's letter below—Indorsed, approved in Council, March 4, 1756.

purposes; all which Motives I thought both laudable & Warrantable, & justly deserved the Countenance of all well wishers to this Province, & here I beg leave to add my Sentiments concerns an Enemy making use of said Chart, I have sent one for the Governor's perusal.

First, then, there is in the season for Navigation, above three Score Pilots, that Constantly Cruise off the Capes, that always the Enemy's Vessels never wanted a Pilot when on the Coast, & the Accidents hinted at before, of losing our Vessels, has been generally in the winter Season, when the Pilots Boats are halled ashore, & cannot attend.

Secondly, as the Chart has layd in it all the Shoals & dangers, I apprehend there are much more dreaded danger to adventure, unless forc'd to it, than any person would conceive without the Chart, so that I am well satisfied it would be rather a Terror than an encouragement to adventure such an Errand without a Pilot, which as is before observ'd can always be readily got.

Thirdly, this Chart is only calculated to bring Ships out of danger from Sea, & shows them but about 20 miles in the River, & the remaining part very intricate, tho' not dangerous, is another strong inducement no Enemy will attempt coming up so dangerous a Bay & a long difficult River without good Pilots, which hope may never happen.

All which is humbly offer'd to Consideration.

I subscribe thy oblig^d^. Friend,

JOSA. FISHER.

N. B. Some few have been deliver^d^. before notice, as also some few sent to England.

Direction.

To Richard Peters, Esquire, Philadelphia.

Indorsed,

Joshua Fisher, reced 5th March, 1755, day after the Gov^rs^. Lre.

* The preceding letter from the Gov., is dated (in a different hand from the body) March 4, 1756, and indorsed "approved in Council, Mar. 4, 1756." there is a minute of that date, but no notice taken of it. The above letter has no date, but is indorsed, "reced. 5th March, 1755, day after the Govrs. letter," which corresponds to the allusion in the first line, except as to the year. The map, it is believed, was published in 1755, there is therefore some uncertainty as to the year. But it was when the French fleet was expected daily, as was the case in May, 1756. See Colon. Rec. Vol. VII., p. 121. It is therefore placed in this year. Some of these maps are in existence—a translation of it into French was published in 1778—a copy printed in the 2d part of N. A. Pilot, May 12, 1794, was used in the trial before Hon. Jno. Sergeant in the "Pea patch case," see the report of that case Senate doc., No. 21, p. 45, 1848.

Instructions to John Ross, 1756.

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania, and Counties of Newcastle, Kent and Sussex on Delaware.

To Mr. John Ross, of the Manor of Conestogo.

You are to take the Indians now in Town into Your Charge, and Care and Conduct them to the Manor of Conestogo, the place where they have agreed to reside for the present.

As the minds of the Inhabitants are not a little disturbed at the Murders committed by the Enemy Indians, and the People living on the Road, and such as you may meet may not be well disposed towards them, Dr. Thompson, one of the Magistrates of the County of Lancaster, will accompany you and assist you.

You will easily conceive that if the Indians are suffered to separate or straggle upon the Road, or to get Drunk, they will be in danger of their Lives. You must therefore keep them altogether, and see that they are perfectly sober and of good Behaviour.

You are to seat them on the Manor of Conestogo, at the place, where the Indians have lived for some time past, or as near to it as you can Conveniently, and were Sheds are wanting, you are to get them put up and fitted with all necessary Accommodations.

You are to supply them with Provisions and Necessarys which you will purchase or agree for at the cheapest Rates, and as soon as you can make any Estimate of what Sum they can be maintained for ℔ Week, you are to send me an Account of it that it may be considered, and more particular directions given you in this Article, which will be one of the most material ones in your Account.

You are, as soon as may be, to go or send to Harris's Ferry, and remove from thence the Families and Goods belonging to them, taking care that they be not insulted or abused in the way.

Herewith You have an Order for Fifty Pounds, but I strictly Charge you to pay no Money on Account of the Indians, without a Bill of Particulars and a Receipt under it, and I recommend it to you to be very frugal, and to go into no Expences but what are absolutely necessary.

You are to transmit your Accounts to me Monthly, upon Oath, to be made by you before some Justice of the Peace.

Let me know, from time to time, what you do in Pursuance of these Directions, and the Number of Indians that shall be under your Care.

Given under my Hand and Seal at Arms at Philadelphia, this Eighth Day of Mareh, 1756.

Indorsed.

Copy—Instructions to John Ross, of Conestogo Manor.
8th March, 1755.

* See Colon. Rec. Vol. VII., p. 59.

Gov. Morris to W. Parsons, 1756.

Sir:

As Gen[l] Shirley expects the detachment of the Grenadiers of his own regiment, and of the Independ[t] Companys that have for some time past done duty in the towns of Reading and Easton, to be at New York by the 15th Instant, I have given the necessary orders for their march thither, and take this opportunity by M[r]. Irwin to return you the thanks of the Government for your polite behaviour and Civilities to the officers Posted in your town, and your Care of the soldiers.

Cap[t]. Joyslin has wrote to Governor Belcher, to inform him of the march of those troops through New Jersey, and I am in hopes he will order the necessary carriages, Provisions, and quarters for them, as I have been informed that the Assembly of that Province has granted money for that Purpose; But as the Troops are to move at a day certain, & it is not known whether such Carriages, &c., will be furnished by that Government, I think it right that there may be no delay or disappointm[t], to desire you will take care in case the necessary carriages, &c., shall not be furnished by New Jersey to Provide every thing proper for the march of those troops through that Province, for which you will transmit your accounts to the Commissioners, together with the several other charges that have attended those troops since their taking post at Easton.

Philad[a], March 8th, 1756.

Indorsed.

Dft to M[r]. Parsons, to Provide Carriages for the regulars, if the Jersey Government did not.

8th March, 1756.

Gov. Morris to Col. Clapham, 1756.

Sir:

As the Regular troops posted at the towns of Reading and Easton are ordered to march to New York, It is thought necessary to take a Company of fifty men, including Sergeants, into the pay of the Province, to be Posted one half in Each of those towns, and to be employed in Escorting the necessary Stores and Provisions to the troops stationed upon the Frontiers. You will therefore go into the County of Bucks, to the town of Newtown, where Cap[t]. Insley has a Company, which by him and his officers have offer'd their service to the Government, and he having orders to get his men in readiness to be reviewd and Examined by you; you are to review and examine them accordingly, and if he has a full Company of fifty

men, Exclusive of Commission officers, that you approve and think fit for service, you are then to cause every man to take the oath of fidelity, and to be inlisted according to the form herewith given you, but for no less time than three months, and when they are so Listed you are to muster the men, and Return the Muster Roll to me under your hand, and you are to order the Capt, with his Ensign & 25 men, to the town of Easton, & ye Lieut. and other 25 men to Reading, there to remain as a guard till further orders, & to hold themselves in readiness to march at an Hours warning.

If you do not find that Company in order and fit to march, you are to make return to me of the fact as soon as Possible, that other measures may be taken.

8 March, 1756.

Indorsed.

Govrs Lre to Coll. Clapham.

Instructions to Jonas Seely, 1756.

Sir:

In my Instructions to you of the 27th January* last, You were ordered, when ever the Company of Grenadiers marched from the Town of Reading, to take Twenty five Men into the Pay of the Province, and to post them in that Town as a Guard. But as the Commissioners and myself think that the sending of a Number of Men from the internal parts of the Province will be the means of strengthening the Frontiers, You are, therefore, not to take any Notice of that part of my Instruction till you receive further orders from me.

To Jonas Seely, Esqr.

Philada, 10 March, 1756.

Indorsed.

Orders to Jonas Seely, 10th March, 1756.—

* See it on page 556. † Also p. 546.

Commission to Edward Shippen, &c. 1756.

By the Honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr, Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania and Counties of Newcastle, Kent, and Sussex, upon Delaware.

[L. S.]

To Edward Shippen, Samuel Morris, Alexander Stedman and Samuel McCall, Junr, Esquires,

Greeting:

Whereas the late General Braddock, by his Commission, under his Hand and Seal, dated the Twenty-second Day of April last, did empower Benjamin Franklin, of the said Province, Esquire, to procure, and contract, and agree for the Hire of One hundred and fifty Waggons and Teams, and a Number of Carriage Horses for his Majesty's Service; And thereby promised to ratify and confirm the Contracts and Agreements of the said Benjamin Franklin, made in Consequence of the said Commission, and conformable to the Instructions therewith delivered him, as by the said Commission and Instructions appears. And Whereas, as well the said Benja^n Franklin as divers other persons, at the Instance and by the Orders and Directions of the said General Braddock, did contract with sundry Persons in the several Provinces of Pennsylvania and Maryland and Dominion of Virginia, for the Hire of a considerable Number of Waggons, Teams, and Carriage Horses and other Things, on certain terms, Considerations and Hire, paid and to be paid, agreeable to the said Instructions, which were actually employed for the transporting of Provisions and Stores for the Troops under the Comand of the said General Braddock, and several of them were afterwards lost in the said Service. And the said General Braddock being since deceased, without fully satisfying the owners of the said Waggons and Horses for the Hire and Loss thereof, Application for the same hath been made, on their Behalf, unto his Excellency William Shirley, Esquire, now Commander in Chief of all his Majesty's Forces in America, Who, willing that Justice shou'd be done between the Crown and the Subject, and Payment made of what remains justly due on Account of the Premises, hath desired and Authorized me, the said Robert Hunter Morris, Esquire, to commissionate and appoint some fit and proper Persons to audit, adjust, and settle the Accounts and demand yet remaining unsatisfied, relative to the Hire, Damages and Loss accrued on Account of the said Waggons and Horses, to the several Owners thereof, in Conjunction with Robert Leake, Esquire, Commissary General of the Stores and Provisions to His Majesty's Forces in North America. Know Ye that I, the said Robert Hunter Morris, have therefore nominated, commisionated, and appointed, And by these presents do nominate, commis-

sionate, and appoint You, the said Edward Shippen, Samuel Morris, Alexander Stedman, and Samuel McCall, or any three of you, in Conjunction with the said Robert Leake, Esquire, to audit, liquidate, adjust and settle the Accounts, Claims, and Demands of the several Owners of all such Waggons, Teams and Horses, and other things which were so hired and employed in the said Service yet remaining unsatisfied; And distinctly to state each Persons Account, as well for the Hire as for the Damage and Loss, partial or total, of all and every Waggon, Team, and Horse, and other Thing so contracted for, used, employed, or lost in the said Service, And made Report thereof under your Hands, or the Hands of any three of you, as soon as conveniently may be.

Given under my hand and lesser Seal of the said Province of Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia, the Thirty-first Day of January, In the Twenty-Ninth Year of his Majesty's Reign, Annoq. Domini, 1756.

ROBT. H. MORRIS.

—

[Loco. Sig.] WHEREAS it has been represented, that the necessary attendance on the Execution of the above Commission breaks in too much upon the private affairs of the Persons therein named, I have therefore thought fit, for the better Dispatch of the said Business, to appoint John Ingliss, of the City of Philadelphia, Merchant, one of the Commissioners for the Execution of the said Commission; Hereby giving and granting to him, the said John Ingliss, the same Powers and Authorities that are given to any of the said Comissioners in and by the said Commission, in as full and ample manner as if he had been therein originally nominated and constituted one of the said Comissioners.

Given under my Hand and the lesser Seal of the said Province, at Philadelphia, this Thirteenth Day of March, 1756.

ROBT. H. MORRIS.*

(Copy.)

Indorsed;

13 March, 1756. Copy Governor Morris's Commission to Ed. Shippen, Sam. Morris, A. Stedman, to settle Accounts with Waggoners, &c.

ELECTION OF LIEUT. OF COMPANY OF DOCK WARD, 1756.

To the Honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esq., Lieutenant Governor & Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania, & Counties of New Castle, Kent, & Sussex, on Delaware.

May it please Your Honour:

That we Certify, That on the Twentieth day of this instant, March, The Freemen of Dock Ward, in the City of Philadelphia, did, by a

* See Colon. Rec. Vol. VII. p. 10.

Majority of Votes in the way of Ballot, Chuse Mr. John Nixon as Lieutenant of the Company of Dock Ward, aforesaid in the Stead of Mr. Thomas Willing, the late Lieutenant of the said Company, who was pleas'd to Resign his Commission.

Given under our Hands this twenty-third day of March, in the year 1756.

ABRAHAM USHER,
HU. DAREY,
JOHN PALMER.

Indorsed.

Return of Freemen of Dock Ward of John Nixon, to be Ensign in the Room of Mr. Thos. Willing, 23d March, 1756.

Govr said he did not know whether the Law authorized this Return.*

Instructions of Captain Dumas, 1756.

Dumas Capitaine d'infanterie Comandant de la Belle Riviere et ses Dependances.

IL Est Ordonnie au Sieur Donville Enseigne en second de Partie à la tête d'un Detachment de Cinquante Sauvages pour aller observer les Mouvemens des Ennemis sur les Derrieres du Fort Cumberlan.

IL S átachera à harceler leurs Convois et tentera de bruler leurs Magazins de Canagiechuie si cette Expèdition est practicable.

IL ne negligera Rien pour faire quelques Prisoniers qui puissent nous confirmer Ce que nous sçavons dejà des Desseins de L'Ennemie.

LE Sieur Donville employera touts ses Talents et tout son Crédit á empecher les Sauvages d'user d'aucune Cruaútè sur Ceux qui tomberont entre leurs Mains L'honneur et L'humanitè doivént en cela nous servir de Guide.

Fait au Fort Duquesne, Le 23 Mars, 1756.

DUMAS.†

Indorsed.

23 Mar. 1756. A French Letter. Lre of Captn Dumas, Commander at Fort Dusquesne.

* See Colon. Rec. Vol. VII. p. 76, declared by Attorney General not warranted by Acts of Assembly.

† Rec'd inclosed in a Letter from Col. Washington, dated April 9th, page 620, postea. This order was found in the pocket of Mr. Donville, who was killed in an action shortly after; see Letter of Col. Washinton, April, postea. See also Letter from Edward Shippen, giving particulars of this action, April 4th, page 608.

Orders and Instructions to John Steel, Esq., 1756.

With these Instructions you will recieve a Commission appointing you Captain of a Company in the pay of the Province, which is to be made up by Draughts of thirteen men out of Each of the Companys composed by James Burd, Hanse Hamilton, James Patterson, and Hugh Mercer, Esqr., to whom I now send orders to make the Draughts accordingly, and also a Commission appointing James Hollowday your Lieuten^{t}. You will therefore, as soon as may be after your arrival in Cumberland County, send an officer with my orders to the several Captains to whom they are Directed, to receive from them the Draughts agreeable to my orders. When you have formed your Company you are to take post at McDowell's mill, upon the road to the Ohio, which you are to make yonr Head Quarters, and to detach Patroling partys from time to time to scour the woods, in such manner as you shall Judge most consistant with the safety of the Inhabitants. In case any of the men you recieve should be unfit for service, you are to pay and discharge them, and inlist others in their stead, taking care to observe the form of Inlistment prescribed to Capt. Potter, from whom you will recieve Coppys of the papers necessary to Guide you in this particular.

You are to inform me from time to time of what you do, and of every thing material that Happens upon that part of the frontier, and of the number & motions of any Body of French or Indians that you shall recieve Intelligence of.

You are to apply to M^{r}. Adam Hoops, for the Provincial allowance of Provision for the men under your Command.

Given under my Hand, this twenty fifth day of March, 1756.

Indorsed.

Orders of Instructions to John Steele, Esqr.
25 March, 1756.

Orders to James Burd, 1756.

Sir:

Upon Receipt of this order you are to draught thirteen private men out of the Company under your Command, which you are to deliver to John Steel, Esqr., who I have appointed Captain of a Company, to be made up of Draughts out of yours and some other of the Companys in Cumberland County, or to one of his officers, together with a certificate of their several inlistments, and an account of what pay they have recieved and what is due to them respectively, and you are to let the men that are so Draughted out of your Company, take with them their Arms & Blankets belonging to the

Province, for which you are to take a Reciept from the officer to whom you deliver the men.

Given under my hand, this twenty fifth day of March, 1756.

To James Burd, Esqr., Captain of a Company of foot in the pay of the Province.

The Like to Captains

HANCE HAMILTON,
JAMES PATTERSON,
HUGH MERCER

Indorsed.

Dft Orders to ye Captains of Cumberland to Draught 13 men Each for Capt. Steel. March 25, 1756.

GOV. MORRIS TO JOHN POTTER, 1756.

March 25th, 1756.

Sir:

Being informed that you have not yet begun the fort I instructed you to build some time ago, I think it necessary to order that that work be postponed for the Present, and that you employ the Company under your Command, in the manner you Judge most for the safety of the Inhabitants upon the frontiers of Peters and Hamilton townships, taking such posts there, Erecting such Stuckados, and ordering such Patrolls as you shall think Best till you have my further orders.

I am your Humbl. Servt.

R. H. M.

To John Potter, Esqr., Capt. of a Company of foot in the pay of the Province.

Indorsed.

Govr to John Potter. 25th Mar., 1756.

ORDERS OF GOV. MORRIS TO CAPTS. OF CUMBERLAND CO'Y, 1756.

Philad^{a}, March 28th, 1756.

Sir:

Having appointed Elisha Saltar, Esqr., Commissary Genl of the Musters for the Province of Pensilvania, I now send him into the County of Cumberland to Muster & Examine the troops employd there in the service and pay of this Province, you will therefore deliver to him the Muster Roll of your Company, under your own Oath and that of your officers, & Draw up your men before him at

such time and place as he shall appoint for that purpose, that he may muster and examine them, and the several certificates of their Inlistment, which you will deliver to him for that purpose, at such time as the Commissary shall signifie to you his intention to move *to fort Lytellton*, you are to furnish him with an Escort sufficient to conduct him thither, which you are to detach under ye command of a Commission officer.*

I have orderd The Commissary to examine into the state and condition of the arms, accoutriments, Blankets, Provisions and tools belonging to the Province, and remaining with your Company; you will therefore lay these several matters before him for his inspection, and by him you will signifie to me what you think further necessary for the use of your Company, or the fort under your command.

You will transmit to me, by the Commissary, a Copy of the Journal, which, by your Instructions, you was directed to keep.

To John Potter, Esqr., Captain of a Company of foot in the pay of the Province.

The like to Hamilton, Mercer, Burd & Patterson.

Indorsed.

Orders to the Captains in Cumberland County respecting the Commissary of the Musters.

March 28th, 1756.

Orders of Gov. Morris to E. Shippen, 1756.

Philadelphia, 28 March, 1756.

Sir:

Being informd that there is an immediate want of Ammunition for the use of the Provincial Troops posted in the County of Cumberland, I order you forwith to send to W^m. Buchanan & Adam Hoops, at Carlisle, for their service, all the Powder and Lead that remains undisposed of in your hands, belonging to the Government. If an Opportunity does not forthwith offer of a Waggon for conveying it to Carlisle, you are then to hire one for that purpose, using all the dispatch possible, and transmitt an account of the quantity sent, together wth the Charge of Carriage to the Commissioners here.

Indorsed.

Dft to M^r. Shippen. March 28th, 1756.

* In Hamilton's orders—to *Fort Shirley*, Mercers—*To Fort Granville*, in Burds—to *Pomfret Castle* or *Pattersons fort*, and in Pattersons,—*Harris's ferry*. *From your own or Capt. Steels Company, or both as you shall Judge best*,—(only to Potter.)

Orders and Instructions to E. Saltar, 1756.

Philad^a, March 28th, 1756.

Sir:

With these instructions you will receive my Commission appointing you Commissary, Genl of the musters for this Province, to which you will qualifie yourself By taking the oaths to the Government and an oath to the true and faithful discharge of your office, before some person having authority to administer the same, of all which you are to get a Certificate indorsed on the back of your commission.

You are to apply to the Commissioners appointed to dispose of ye sixty thousand pounds for such money as they may think necessary to trust in your Hands, and to give a receipt for the same, and you are to dispose of such money agreeable to the Instructions you will receive from them for the purpose, taking care to keep an exact account of every payment you make, that you may be enabled to give in your acc^t upon oath.

As soon as you are furnished with the money and Instructions from the Commissioners, you are to proceed into Cumberland County by the way of Lancaster & York, and so to McDowells Mills which stands upon the new Road to the Allegheny, where you will find some men under the Command of John Potter, Esqr., who has been some time raising a company for the Defence of the Frontiers of that County, to whom you are to deliver the orders herewith given you, directed to him requiring him to muster his Company, or such men as are raised at such time and place as you shall appoint for that purpose, and you are accordingly to muster the men, call over their names and Examine their several enlistments, and satisfie yourself that the persons appearing & those whose names are inserted in the certificates of inlistment are the same, and of the persons appearing at such muster you are to make a true list in which you are to set down the names of the Officers and men, together with the dates of the officers commissions, the age of each solder, his trade, the time of his inlistment & the country in wch he was born, which muster Roll you are to compare with the muster Rolls Returned to you under the oaths of the officers, and if they in any thing Differ, you are to Enquire into the cause of Such Difference, and make report thereof to me. When you have thus mustered Captain Potters men, you are to pay them or not agreeable to the Instructions you will receive from the Commissioners upon that head From Cap^n Potters company, you are to Proceed along the new Road to Fort Lytellton, under an Escort which I have orderd Cap^n Potter to furnish you with and from Fort Lytellton to Fort Shirley, and so to Fort Granville and Pomfret Castle, under the Escorts which the Commanders of those forts will respectively furnish, and to muster the several companys in the pay of the Province, either together or

when separated upon detachments as you shall Judge it most Convenient and consistant with the duty upon which they may be employd.

In mustering the several companys or detachments, you are to observe the same caution to examine the Inlistments, and returns of the officers in the same manner in every respect as you are directed to do as to Captain Potters men, and to make true & regular Rolls or Lists of Each company.

You are at the time of mustering or as soon after as conveniently you can to pay the several officers, and men agreeable to the Instructions you will receive from the commissioners.

And whereas I have ordered the several captains Burd, Hamilton, Patterson & Mercer, to Draught thirteen such out of their respecsive companys which I have directed to be delivered together with the certificates of their inlistment to John Steel, Esq., whom I have appointed to command them as a captain, and directed to take post at McDowells mills. If you find the said company formed, you are to muster and pay the several men so Draughted from the time of their respective inlistments, or from that of their last payment.

You are to keep an Exact Journal of your proceedings in which you are to set down every thing material that you observe, or meet with upon this service, and every payment you make, coppy of which you are to return to me.

You are to Return to me lists or Rolls of the several Companys you shall muster pursunt to these Instructions, and as yon will be required to sware that the same are Just and true, you will be very carefull in making them up.

You are to examin into the state and condition of the arms Ammunition, Blankets, accoutrements, tools and Provisions belonging to the Province, and remaining with Each Company, of which you are to return me an exact account.

As soon as you have executed the several matters committed to you by these Instructions, in which you will use the greatest dispatch, you are to return immediately to Philad^a, and make a full report to me of your transactions.

Indorsed.

Instructions to Elisha Saltar, commissary Genl. of the Musters, for the Province of Pennsilvania.

H. Fox to Gov. Shirley, 1756.

Whitehall, March 31st, 1756.

Sir:

It having been represented to the King that your presence in England, may be very usefull & necessary to his Majesty's Service at this time, as you are able to give many lights & Information relative to the State of affairs in North America, I am to signify to you his Majy's pleasure, that as soon as you shall receive this Letter from Colonel Webb, who is appointed Commander-in-Chief in North America, you do repair to England with all possible Expedition, having first deliver'd to Col. Webb all such papers as relate to the King's Service.

I am with great Truth & Regard,

Sir,

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant,

H. FOX.

P. S. That there may not be the least Delay, H. M. has given Directions to the Lords of Admiralty, who have order'd a Frigate to receive you on board, & proceed wth you directly to England.

H. F.

Indorsed.

From H. Fox to Govr Shirley.

Gov. Morris, to Gov. Hardy, 1756.

Sir:

I am honor'd with two of your favours since I wrote you last, and do not see how any other plan can be laid for attacking Indians than you have proposed of finding out their places of abode and going to & attacking them there. The Great or Laurell Swamp you mention is what they pass through in their way to & from Wioming & Neskopekin, where they have chiefly resided till lately, but upon some apprehensions of being attack'd by us they have moved to a place covered by a steep Mountain on one side and by the East Branch of Sasquehanna on the other, where they think themselves more secure. This I learnt from two Indians that I sent for intelligence up that river, who are lately returned. The Commissioners have consented to the building a fort at Shamokin and have desired me to raise four hundred men for that purpose, which I am now doing with all the despatch in my Power, and upon my laying your last letters before

them they agreed that I might employ those men after completing that fort, in conjunction with the troops of the neighbouring Governm^t for annoying the Enemy. But it will be late before that work is done, as the place is distant and no wagon road to it.

I wish the six Nations at the late treaty had come to some Vigorous resolutions with regard to the Delawares, in case they refused to comply with what their Deputies were directed to recommend. For as the French seem to have taken the Delawares under their Protection tis not improbable they may pay like regard to that message.

Our Commissioners have also agreed to give a reward for Indian Prisoners and Scalps from 100 to 150 pieces of Eight each, and I am pressd to declare war against the Delawares and by Proclamation to offer those rewards. But as the neighbouring Governments will be affected by it I have declined till I can hear from you on the Head. The Indians here whom I have consulted seem to approve the thing & will give me their full answer this week. These measures seem to me right as those of the Six Nations that lived among the Delawares have had full time to return into their own Country, and such others as were our friends have been invited into our settlements, And as numbers of People acquainted with the woods will form themselves into partys & seek the enemies in their Haunts.

My Assembly meets to-morrow, and I shall then know whether they will come into a Law for establishiug Military discipline among the troops in the pay of the Province, without which our numbers will be of Little use, and the forts we have built will be in danger of falling into the Hands of our Enemies, every officer & soldier thinking himself at Liberty to leave his station whenever the service becomes disagreeable to him.

Indorsed.

Govr Morris to Govr Hardy, 4 April, 1756.

Return of Field Officers, Philadelphia County, 1756.

To the Honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr, Lieutenant-Governor & Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Pensilvania & Counties of New Castle, Kent and Sussex on Delaware:

We the Captains, Lieutenants and Ensigns of the Eight Companies of Foot Militia, legally chosen, Commissioned and formed into a Regiment in the County of Philadelphia, in the said Province, send Greeting.

May it please your Honour:

That we certify that at a meeting of us this day, pursuant to an Act of General Assembly of the said Province, Intitled "An Act for better Ordering and Regulating such as are willing and desirous

to be united for military purposes within this Province." We did proceed to the choice of a Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel and Major for the Regiment, and by a majority of Votes, in the way of Ballot, Mr. Jacob Duché was chosen Colonel, James Coultas, Esqr, was chosen Lieutenant-Colonel, and Mr. Daniel Byles was Chosen Major of the said Regiment. Which we humbly submit to your Honour for your approbation. Given under our hands and seals the second day of April, in the twenty-ninth year or His Majesty's Reign, and in the year of our Lord 1756.

JACOB WHITMAN,	[L. S.]	JOSEPH LEECH,	[L. S.]
DAN'L MACEANET,	[L. S.]	JOHN VANHORN,	[L. S.]
JACOB DUFFIELD,	[L. S.]	JOHN STILLWAGEN,	[L. S.]
LAWRENTZ CAR,	[L. S.]	THOS. WELLS,	[L. S.]
GEORGE BARTHOLOMEW,	[L. S.]	JACOB NAGLEE,	[L. S.]
WM. BEY,	[L. S.]	ISAAC ASHTON,	[L. S.]
WM. ALLEN,	[L. S.]	WILL. PARR,	[L. S.]
JACOB EAGLE,	[L. S.]	JACOB HALL,	[L. S.]
SIMON THOMAS,	[L. S.]	SAML. SOIFT,	[L. S.]
JOSEPH RUSK,	[L. S.]	JAMES TAYLOR,	[L. S]

Indorsed.

Philad^a County—Return of Field Officers, Jacob Duché, Colonel; James Coultas, Lieu^t Col.; Daniel Byles, Major. Commissions dated 9th April, 1756.

ED. SHIPPEN TO GOV. MORRIS, 1756.

Lancaster, 4th April, 1756.

Honoured Sir,

I received the inclosed just now from M^r. Hoops; And below is a Copy of a paragraph of a Letter to M^r. George Ross from M^r. Alricks. The small Forts, which M^r. Hoops mentions, were thought by the poor distressed people a good Security against a small party of Indians; & tho' they might not have thought them a sufficient Protection from the Enemy, exclusive of the Provincial Forts, yet they were an Additional Encouragement to them to stand their Ground.

Yesterday, by Jacob Klyne, I sent away to Messrs. Buchannan & Hoops, at Carlisle, Six half Barrels of Powder & 97½lb of Swan Shott, which was all that remained in my Hands. I have not time to draw out the Acco^t of the Distribution of the Powder & Lead

* See Colon. Rec. Vol. VII., p. 70–72.

belonging to the Government, but shall take Care to send it by the next Opportunity.

I am, Sir,
Your Honour's Affectionate,
humble Servant,
EDWD. SHIPPEN.

To the Honble the Governor.

Paragraph of M^r. Alrick's Letter.

"Patterson's Fort was attacked yesterday by a considerable Num-
" ber of Indians on the opposite Side of the Creek, but received no
" Damage, and several Shotts were heard towards M^r. Burd's Fort."
31st March, 1756.

Directed,

To the Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania.

℞ Favour of M^r. Jas. Webb.

Indorsed,

Lancaster, 4 Apr. 1756, Edward Shippen.

Gov. Hardy to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Fort George, New York, 4th April, 1756.

Sir,

During your Absence from Philadelphia I received a Letter from M^r. Peters of the 25th March, Inclosing Copys of two Letters from you, and the Agreement of your Commissioners, M^r. Peters Imagining from my last Letter to you that I had not received them.

My Assembly are now adjourned, after their long sitting, to the 27th Instant; before this Adjournment I passed a Bill, in which provision is made for a Number of Men not exceeding 400, to Act in Conjunction with New Jersey and Pensylvania, in an Offensive War against the Indians; as your Commissioners want a plan of operations, I should be glad you would Form one, and do me the favour to Communicate it to me; the Services to be performed by those Forces, should they be raised, being in your Province, you will much better inform yourself of the places of Retreat than I can possibly do, and the Season advances so fast, that will render removing the Indians from their hiding places much more difficult, if the time for Executing it is much longer delayed.

The Day before Yesterday I received an Express from Sir William Johnson, who is again returned to the German Flatts, where he is Collecting the Militia and Indians, upon Intelligence from the Oneydas and Capt. Williams, posted at the Great Carrying place, that a great Body of Indians had cutt off a Lieutenent and his Party that was posted at a Magazine about four miles from him, that the same Indians had besett his Fort, and I fear they have cutt off some Battoes that had just got over the Carrying Place, with Gun Powder and Ordnance Stores; the Situation of the Garrison at Oswego must from this Circumstance be Terrible, as our Advices before Inform'd us of their being greatly distressed for want of Provisions; if Sir William Johnson does not soon drive those Indians, and the French we may suppose are mixed with them, all Communication with Oswego must be cutt off.

I have sent Expresses to Sir William Johnson and to the Commanding Officers of the several Corps, and Recommended it to them to Consult together, and speedily take the necessary and proper measures on the present Emergencys. We had an Alarm some days ago of this kind, But on Indian Scouts going out without discovering any Enemy, it was believed False, and Sir William Johnson then at the German Flatts with a Strong Body of Militia, dismissed them, and returned himself home; But I wish the present does not turn out a very serious affair; it Appears to me, and indeed I have long expected it, that the French will attempt at all Events, by means of their Indians, to cutt off and Impede the Transportation of provisions and Stores to Oswego. Copys of the several Letters sent me, I sent by Express Yesterday to General Shirley; by a Letter I received from him last Night, he says he proposes setting out for this City in about ten days, and that a Ship Arrived at Boston the 28th March from England, who sailed in Company with two Men of War bound to Boston, on Board which are all the Public Letters.

I am, Sir,

Your most Obedient

& Humble Servant,

CHAS. HARDY.

The Honble Governor Morris.

Indorsed,

Fort George, 4 Apr. 1756, S^r. Charles Hardy.

ELISHA SALTAR TO ——— ———, 1756.

Carlisle, Apr 4th, 2 O'Clock.

Dear Sir,

I arriv'd a this place Abt 12, where I found fresh Alarms from the frontiers, viz., on the 29 of March, Pomfret Castle was fir'd on by a party of Indians, who took one Hugh Mitchettree prisoner, & they are Verry scarce of provisions & Amunition.

From Fort Granville, 31st March, There was a party of Indians, 4 in number, within one mile of the fort, which fort is so Badly stor'd with Amunition, Not having three Rounds ℔ man, they thought it not prudent to Venture after them.

I am further inform'd there were two partys of Indians seen Yesterday within a mile of Shippens Town, but Dont hear of any mischief Done Yett. I think it highly Necessary, & shall, if possible, get an Escort from Adam Hoop's, to go the Rounds with me, as I am Verry Sencible Great part of the Souldiers have left their posts & Come to the Inhabitants, particularly from fort Granville. If I hear no more of them I shall proceed, whether I gett an Escort or no, & if I gett Certain Intiligence of ther Being Abroad, I will wait till the Charge I have on me Can be Conducted with Safety.

The above Accts is matters of fact, & may be Depended on.

I am, Deur Sir,

Your Verry

Humbl Sert,

ELISHA SALTAR.

P. S. All their Cry is Money & Amunition.

Indorsed.

Elisha Saltar. Carlisle, 4 Apr, 1756.

HANS HAMILTON TO ———————, 1756.

These are to Inform you of the Malancoly News that Occurd on the 2nd Instant, came to ye fort of Captn Alex. Culbertson, with 30 men, who Inform'd us that the Indians had taken and burnt McCords Fort, & Taken many Captives, upon the News of which Docr Jameson, with 19 men went in Compy with Capn Jameson men over Ray's & near Sideling Hill, & Come up with the Indians & Captives, & a sore Engagement happend; there is only 5 of our men returnd, & mostly wounded. Capn Culbertson & Docr Jameson is thought to be Kild, having Recd several wounds. I have sent a Letter to Captn Potter, Desiring him to Come & Assist us to bury the Dead, & forward an Express for Dotr Prentice.

We are Credibly Inform[d] that y[e] following men are killd:

	Wounded.
JOHN REYNOLD,	
JAMES ROBERTSON, Taylor,	WM. REYNOLDS,
JAMES ROBERTSON, Weaver,	WM. HUNTER,
JAMES PIERCE,	MATT. GUTTON,
DANIEL MACEY,	JAMES CAMMEL,
WM. CHAMBERS,	JOHN McDONALD,
JAMES BLAIR,	JOHN BARNET,
	HENRY JAMES,

And many others are not Return[d]. Indian Isaac hath brought in the Scalp of Capten Jacobs, and we are Inform[d] the Indians swear they[ll] Take our fort if they Loose 100 men. Our men Engaged about 2 hours, being about 36 in Number, & we should have had the better had not thirty Indians Came to their Assistance. Some of our men fir[d] 24 Rounds a piece, and when their Amunition Fail[d] were oblig'd to Fly.*

HANS HAMILTON.†

Coppy.

Indorsed,

Hance Hamilton, Fort Lyttleton, 4 Ap[l], 1756.

GOV. MORRIS TO COL. CLAPHAM, 1756.

Being informed that the time for which Cap[n] Trexlers Company engaged in the Public service is nigh expiring, and that they declare it their resolution then to leave the fort where they are posted on the Northern frontier; And It being of dangerous consequence to suffer that fort to be left without a garrison, I think it for the safety of the Province to order, that you immediately detach thirty of the men of your Regiment, under a Commission officer, to take post at the fort where Cap[n] Trexlers Company are at Present garrisoned, and you are to give your orders to the officers, you shall send on this service to maintain the post, and to keep as many of his men scouting between the forts Allen and Lebanon, as is consistent with the safety of the fort.

You will apply to the Commissioners for such things as may be necessary for this detachm[t] upon their march and in garrison, and you are to order Cap[t]. Trexler to deliver to the officer you shall send such arms, amunition, Blankets, tools, accoutrements & Provisions as his Company may have belonging to the Province, of which he must make a Return to you.

Indorsed.

Gov[r] to Coll. Clapham. 5 April, 1756.

* "April 4, 1756," indorsement.

† See another letter from him to Capt. Potter, April 9, in Colon. Rec., Vol. VII., p. 77.

Elisha Saltar to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Carlisle, Apr 5, 1756.

Dear Sir,

Upon my Arrivall here I found the people in the Greatest Confusion, the Troops abandoniug the forts, & the Country People geathering to geather in the greatest Consternation. This Evening Came Express the Enclos'd, which is thought Necessary by most. The people of this County Is Enrag'd agt the Assembly almost to Distraction, & I fear they will Carry their Resentment to a Great Length with them. The Indians have been seen on this Road Verry lately ; I have prevaild on the People that Left the forts to Escort me as far as fort Littleton, which Cou'd not Gett others to do, which has kept me here this Day. I have Nothing more particular worthy your Notice, am, with the Greatest Respect,

Sir, your
Verry Humbl Sert,
ELISHA SALTAR.

To the Honble Robt H. Morris, Esqr.

Directed.

On his Majestys Service—To The Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Leiutenant Governour and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pensilvania.

Indorsed.

Elisha Saltar. Carlisle, 5 Apl, 2756.

Capt. Patterson to his Wife, 1756.

April 5, 1756.

By a Letter from Capl. Patterson, (who was at Carlyle) to his Wife, we are informed that on Monday, the 29th March, about five a Clock, one Hugh Mitcheltree, who was going to fodder his Cattle, was carried off by the Indians; about Sundown some Indians appeared on the Hill opposite to Patterson's Fort and fired Six Guns, a Bullett from one of which struck the Guard House; about Ten a Clock the Same night the Soldiers heard a firing, which they supposed to be at Fort Granville, or the fort at Tuskarora, & imagine it is taken. They imagine the Firing was Canon or Plattoons.

Ammunition At Lancaster, &c., 1756.

An Accot of Twenty half Barrels of Gun Powder, & Ten hundred weight of Bar Lead, and Three hundred weight of Swan Shott belonging to the Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr , Governor, sent by John Mifflin Esqr., to the Care of Richard Peters Esqr., at Edward Shippen's at Lancaster.

Dr.

Novem[d] 8, To 20 half Barrels of Powder, 10hd. 0qr. 0℔. Bar Lead, and 3hd. 0qr. 0℔ Swan Shott, (received by Tho[s] Bartholomews Waggon,) which being reduced to neat Weight, will be, 1000℔. Powder, 1120℔. Lead, 336 Swan Shott.

1755. Cr.

	Powder,	Lead,	Swan Shot.
Novembe[r] 20, By George Stevenson Esq[r]. ℘ Directions of Mr. Peters, -	℔100	℔112	℔28
" Do: By James Galbreath Esq[r].,	6	9	
" 24, By John Armstrong, Wm. Buchannan & Francis West, for the use of the Inhabitants of Carlisle, by M[r]. Peters Directions, - -	100	200	
" 26, By Conrad Weiser Esq[r]., sent ℘ Lesh & Bricker, ℘ the Gov[rs] Order,	100	200	
Decem[r] 9, By Thomas Forster Esq[r]., & Thos McKee, at Hunter's Fort, -	12½		25
17, By Adam Reed Esq[r]., for the use of his Company in ranging along the mountain, - - -	25	25	28
1756.			
Janu[ry] 12, By Jacob Levan Esq[r]., ℘ the Governor's verbal order at Reading,	25	100	
" 24, By the Conestogoe Indians, -	25	50	
Febru[ry] 12th, By Sundry Inhabitants of the South West End of Hanover Township, del'd to Joseph Barnet, for their fort, - - - -	20	40	
" 17, By Adam Reed Esq[r]., for the People at his Fort, - - -	20	40	
" 18, By Sundry Inhabitants of the East End of Hanover Township, deld to Wm. Dever & Jn[o]. Hume, for their use in ranging along the Mountain,	20		28
" 24, By Sundry Inhabitants of Paxton del'd to James Gillcreest, for the use of their Fort, - - - -	10		20
March 29, By John Potter Esq[r]., & Comp[a] ℘ the Governor's Order, sent by John Spore, - - - -	100	144	56
" d[o]. By Joseph Armstrong & his neighbours, ℘ the Gov[rs]. Order, -	25	28	28
" d[o]. By Cap[t] John Steel ℘ the Governor's orders, - -	100	172	28
April 3, By William Buchannan & Adam Hoops, sent them by Jacob Klyne, ℘ the Gov[rs] Order, - - -	300		97½
	℔988½	℔1120	℔338½

Amount brought Forward,		988½	1120	338½
Remaining loose Powder about -	℔2			
Lost in bringing up, owing to bad hooping, or the jolting of ye Waggon. -	℔9½—11½			
	℔1000	℔1120	℔338½	

Errors Excepted at Lancaster,
The 5th Day of April 1756.

EDWD. SHIPPEN.*

Indorsed.
Accounts of Powder at Lancaster.

Col. Clapham to Gov. 1756.

Philadᵃ. April 5th, 1756.

Sir:

The Bearer Captain Trexler informs me that the Time of his men's Inlistment expires on Saturday next, and that he has no Reason to believe they will engage again, the inclos'd was delivered me by a Person who arrived just now in Town from the Frontiers. I thought proper to transmit it to yʳ Honour, and am,

Sir,
Your most obedient humble Servant,
W. CLAPHAM.

Directed.
To the honᵇˡᵉ Robert H. Morris, Esqʳ.

Indorsed.
Colˡ. Clapham Intelligence.

Thomas McKee to Edward Shippen, 1756.

Foart at Hunters Mill, Apᵘ. 5ᵗʰ, 1756.

Sir:

I Desire to let you No that John Secalemy, Indian, is Com here yᵉ Day before yesterday, about 4 o'clock in yᵉ afternoon, & Gives me an account that there is a Great Confusion amongst yᵉ Indians up yᵉ North branch of Susquehannah; the Dalewares are a moving all from thence to Ohio, and wants to Persuad yᵉ Shanoues along with them,

* See Govrs Letter, Ap. 8 p. 617.

but they Decline Goeing with them that course, as they still incline to join with us, the Shanowes are Goeing up to a Town Called Teoga, where there is a body of ye Six Nations, and there they Intend to Remain. He has brought two more men, som women, & som children along with him, and Sayeth that he Intends to live & Die with us, and Insists upon my Conducting him down to where his Sister and childer is, at Canistogo, and Im Loath to leave my Post, as his Honour was offended at ye last time I did, but can't help it, he Desires to acquaint you that his sisters son was kill'd at Penns Creek, in ye scrimege wth Capt. Patterson. This with Due Respects from

Sir, your Hum^l. Ser^t.

THOMS. M^cKEE.

Directed.

To Edw. Shippen, Esqr.

Indorsed.

Hunters Mill, 5 Apr. 1756, Thos. McKee.

Gov. Morris, to Coll. William Clapham, 1756.

Philad^a., 7th Apr. 1756.

Sir:

As a Magazine of Provisions and other warlike stores will very soon be formed at or near Hunters Mill, upon the river Sasquahana, I think it necessary for the Protection thereof, and for other Purposes, to order that you appoint the said place, called Hunters Mill, or some convenient place near it, for the Genl Randezvous of your regiment now raising, and that you order all the men already enlisted not employd upon some other service, to march immediately to the said Randezvous, and all your recruiting parties to send their recruits thither from time to time.

You will order proper guards upon the magazine, and upon the boats & cannoes which shall be collected there pursuant to my orders, you will give directions that the officers & men keep themselves in good order, and ready to go upon duty at an hours warning.

You will inform the Commissioners of these my orders, and apply to them for the things necessary to carry them into execution.

7th. Apr. 1756.

Directed.

Coll. W^m. Clapham.

Endorsed.

Orders to Coll. W^m. Clapham, 7th. April, 1756, appointing Hunters Mill, as a place of Randezvous for the Recruits to be sent to.

Gov. Morris to Commissioners, 1756.

Gen^{n}:

Mr. Mifflin will lay before you coppy of a letter from Cap. Hamilton to Cap. Potter,* giving an Account of an Action between about fifty of our men and a number of Indians, who had some time before attacked McCord's fort, and were carrying off some Prisoners from thence. From sundry Expressions in the letter, it appears that we were defeated, and that the Indians remained masters of the ground, or we should have known the number of the slain, and whether Jamison was among them. You will observe that they were obliged to send to Carlisle for a surgeon upon this occasion, which is not less than sixty miles, and many of our wounded people may suffer for want of assistance, I must therefore recommend it to you to make Provision for one or more surgeons and two or three mates, to be stationed with the troops upon the frontiers; and if you think it necessary to go into that expence, you will be kind enough to let me know it, & to recommend some proper persons to be employed on those stations.

I directed Coll. Clapham to Communicate to you the orders I gave him last night for his March to Hunter's Mill, which I find he has omitted, being obliged to go to White Marsh to send off a complete detachment to relieve Trexler, and as his neglect in that particular may occasion some delay, I think it necessary to inform you that I intend those troops that are in this town shall move to-morrow, and hope every thing will be provided that is necessary for them.

I laid before you this morning an acc^{t} of the ammunition distributed by Mr. Shippen, of Lancaster,† and as he has now no more in his hands, I recommend it to you to furnish him with a quantity which you may do by returning waggons, at a moderate expence, and it will be there more conveniently placed than in this town, and be ready for the use of the men employed in the frontier counties, and yet secure from being destroy'd by the Enemy, at least for some time.

P. S.—Metcheltree, taken last week within sight of Patterson's fort, call'd to the Garrison, told them the Indians were but six in number, and desired to be rescued, but none went, he was carry'd off.

Indorsed.—Gov^{rs} Lre to the Com^{rs}, 8 April, 1756.

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. VII. p. 77. † See page 614.

Gov. Morris to Capt. Weatherholt, 1756.

Philad^a, 8th April, 1756.

As there are Eleven of your men stationed at Trucker's Mill, I think it for the publick safety that they should be employ'd in ranging the woods, when the people of that township are inclinable to Joyn them and assist in such service; I do, therefore, order that the said men stationed at Trucker's Mill, when they are not employ'd in escorting Provisions or Stores, shall employ themselves in scouring and ranging the woods; and I recommend it to the inhabitants to Joyn them from time to time for that purpose, and you are to take care that this, my order, be carry'd into full Execution.

Directed.—To Cap^n Weatherholt.

Indorsed.—Gov^rs Lre to Captn Weatherholt, 8 April, 1756.

Gov. Morris to E. Salter, 1756.

Philad^a., Aprill, 8th, 1756.

Sir:

I am surprised and concerned to find by yours of the 4th Instant, that you were then at Carlisle when you were expressly directed to go from Lancaster to York, and so to McDowels Mill, I had my reasons for giving you those directions; but it seems you did not think me as good a judge as Croghan, Buchanon, or some others that directed you to take the other rout, for reasons that might answer their ends, but I am afraid will prove to your dishonor. I am sorry to hear of the dismal & distressed state of the frontiers of Cumberland County, and wish it was now in my Power to put a stop to the ravages of the Indians.

You are by your Instructions to take an escort, I am therefore surprised to find you talk of going without, which, also shows me that you do not read, or do not regard the orders you have receivd; you are to Proceed to Adam Hoops's, and either there or in some other convenient place where you can be securd, you are to wait for an Escort, for which you will apply to Cap^n. Potter, and with that escort you are to proceed to fort Lytelton. I must remind you of the cautions given you by the commissioners, and do insist that you pursue your Intentions in every minute particular where you can possibly do it, and that you neither communicate this letter, these Instructions, or your Intentions, to any Person further than is absolutely necessary, and by no means mention the charge you have.

I am obliged to you for the Intelligence, but desire you to write me by every opportunity.

I am, Sir, your
Most Humble Servt.
ROBT. H. MORRIS.

Comissary Saltar.

Indorsed.
Philada. April 9th, 56. Dft. to Comissary Saltar.

Minute of Comm'rs. Premiums for Scalps, 1756.

At a Meeting of the Board of Commissioners for laying out Sixty Thousand Pounds for the King's Use, April 9. 1756.

Agreed,

That it be again propos'd to the Governor to issue a Proclamation as soon as may be, offering Rewards for the Scalps of Enemy, Indians; and that the Governor be informed that this Board are willing to allow the following Premiums for the same, viz.

	Dollars.
For every Male Indian Prisoners above Ten years old, that shall be delivered at any of the Governments Forts or Towns.	150
For every Female Indian Prisoner, or Male Prisoner of Ten years old, and under, delivered as above.	130
For the Scalp of every Male Indian of above Ten years old.	130
For the Scalp of every Indian woman.	50

A true Extract from the Minutes.
WM. FRANKLIN, Clk.*

Indorsed,

Resolution of Comrs. about Bounty for Scalps, 9 Apr. 1756.

* See Colon. Records, Vol. VII, p. 74, 78. Also letters of Gov. M. p. 620 of this vol.

Gov. to the Commissioners, 1756.

Gentlemen,

I this minute received a Paper* from Mr. Peters, signed Wm. Franklin, Clerk, begining in this Extraordinary manner.

Agreed,

That it be again Proposed to the Govr., to Issue a Proclamation offering rewards for the Scalps of Enemy, Indians.

What use is intended to be made of this Introduction, I know not. Till I received this Paper, I never had any determinate resolution from the Commissioners, and I am so far from thinking that Paper a proper or regular way of communicating that Resolution, that I shall at present take no other notice of it than writing thus to you upon it.

Friday Afternoon, 3 o'clock, 9 April, 1756.

Indorsed,

Govrs. Lre. to ye Comrs. 9th April, 1756, resenting their serving him with a Copy of a Resolution & ye several things said in ye Resolution itself.

Col. Geo. Washington to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Dear Sir,

I had scarce reachd Williamsburg, before an express was after me with news of the French & Indians advancing within our Settlements, and doing incredable mischief to ye Inhabitants, which oblig'd me to postpone my business there, and hurry to their assistance with all expedition: when I came to this place I found every thing in deep confusion, and the poor distressed Inhabitants under a general consternation. I therefore collected such force as I coud immediately raise, and sent them in such parties, and to such places as twas judged most likely to meet with the Enemy; one of which, under the command of Mr. Paris, luckily fell in with a small body of them as they were surrounding a small Fort on the No. River of Cacapehon, whom they engaged, and (after half an hour's close firing) put to flight with the loss of their commander, Monsr Donville, (killd), and three or four more mortally wounded. The accident that has determined the fate of Monsieur has, I believe, dispers'd his Party, for I dont hear of any mischief done in this Colony since, tho' we are not without numbers who are makeing hourly discoverys.

* See it, p. 619.

I have sent you a copy of the Instructions* that were found about this officer, that you may see how bold and enterprising the Enemy have grown, how unconfind are the ambitious designs of the French, and how much it will be in their power, (if the Colonys continue in their fatal Lethargy) to give a final stab to Liberty & Property.

Nothing I more sincerely wish than a union to the Colonys in this time of Eminent danger, and that you may find your Assembly in a temper of mind to act consistently with their preservation; what Maryland has, or will do, I know not, but this I am certain off, that Virginia will do every thing that can be expected to promote the publick good.

I went to Williamsburg fully resolved to resign my Commission, but was diswaded from it, at least for a time. If the hurry of business in which I know your honour is gen^ly engagd, will admit of an opportunity to murder a little time in writing to me, I shoud receive the favour as a mark of that esteem which I coud wish to merit, by shewing at all times, when its in my power, how much I am,

Dear Sir,

Y^r honours most Ob^t

& most H^ble Servt.

GO. WASHINGTON.

P. S. A Letter this instant arriving from Williamsburg, informs that our Assembly have voted £20,000 more, and that their forces sh^d be increased to 2000 Men; a laudable example this, and I hope not a singular one.

The inclosd to Col^o Gage, I beg ye fav^r of you to forward.

Indorsed.

Col^l Washington—Inclosing Dumas's Instructions.†
April, 1756.

From Gov. Morris to Elisha Saltar, 1756.

P^da, 10th, April, 1756.

Sir:

I hope you have my last letters, and that you will not think of moving without a very sufficient escort, as the present situation of affairs make it dangerous for Yourself and the Publick.

When you get to fort Lytellton you will take, upon oath, what proofs you can of the certainty of Indian Isaacs having taken the scalp of Captain Jacobs, and as it is probable that he was alone when he took that scalp, you will do well to examine him as to all

* See page 600.

† "Indorsed, April, 1756."

the Circumstances attending the affair, and Captain Hamilton will relate what he knows of the matter, that Isaac may be entitled to the reward, and if you Judge that the proof is as good as the nature of the thing will admit of, you will then send him down to me, giving him a pass and recomendation to the Justices in the Countys through which he may pass, mention the service he has done, and that he is coming down to Claim his reward.

You will receive a letter from the Commissioners relating to some additional pay for Burds Company, and I must recomend it to you to write to the Commissioners the news from time to time, as well as what you do in your office, which may be of use to you.

Indorsed.

Gov^rs Lre to Elisha Saltar, 10 Apr., 1756.*

Gov. Morris to Col. Clapham, 1756.

Philad^a, 10th April, 1756.

Sir:

Having appointed Joseph Shippen, Junr., a Captain in the Regim^t under your Command, I think it necessary he should be immediately employ'd in forwarding the service, you will therefore send him Proper recruiting instructions by Major Burd, and also directions to collect a number of cannoes, at some convenient place upon the river Sasquehana, from whence they may be easily removed to Hunters Mill; and you will furnish him with money for both these services, and order him to keep an exact account, and distinguish between the recruiting charges and those that attend the getting together of the Cannoes.

He is not to employ any men in collecting the Cannoes but such as shall be inlisted in your regiment, that the publick may not be put to unnecessary expence.

You will direct him to send me an account of what number of Cannoes he is likely to procure, that I may make other Provision in case a number sufficient cannot be had.

To Col. Clapham.

Indorsed.

Letter Coll^o. William Clapham, 10 April, 1756.

* See Colon. Rec. Vol VII. p. 77.

John Steel to Gov. Morris, 1756.

May it please your Honour,

Upon my Return to Cumberland County, I applied immediately to Capt. Burd & Capt. Petterson, for the draughts of their Companies, according to your Honour's instructions;* But the time for which most of their men had been Enlisted, Being Expired, they Cou'd not fullfill your Honour's Orders. Most of the Forts had not Receiv'd their full Compliment of Guns, But were in a great measure Supplied by the Arms the Young men had brought wth them. Capt. Patterson had Reciev'd but thirty three fire Arms, Capt. Mercer has not so many, but is Supplied by Mr. Croghan's Arms, & Capt. Hamilton has Lost a considerable number of his at the Late Skirmish beyond Sideling Hill. As I can neither have the men, Arms, nor Blankets, I am Obliged to Apply to your Honour for them; the Necessity of our Circumstances has Obliged me to muster, before two Magistrates, the one half of my Company whom I Enlisted, and am Obli'd to Borrow Guns. I pray that wth all possible Expedition, fifty four fire arms, & as many Blankets & a Quantity of flints, may be sent to me, for Since McCords Fort has been been taken, & ye men defeated, yt pursued, our Country is in the utmost Confusion. Great Numbers have Left the County, & many are preparing to follow, may it please your Honour, to allow me an Ensign, for I find yt a Serjents pay will not prevail wth men to Enlist in whom much Confidence is to be Repos'd. I Beg Leave to Recommend Archibald Erwin to your Honour for this purpose. As Mr. Hoops can give your Honour a particular Account of the Late incursions of the Enemy, I need not trouble your Honour wth any Account of mine.

I am your Honour's

Most Obliged Humble Servt.

JOHN STEEL.

Peters township, in Cumberland, April 11th, 1756.

Directed.

To the Honble Robt H. Morris, Esqr., Governor of Pennsylvania, &c., ꝑ favr of Adam Hoops, Esqr.

Indorsed.

Letter from the Reverend Captn Steel to the Govr.

April 21, 1756.

* See them, March 25, on page 601.

Commission to Robert Irwin, 1756.

By the Honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esquire, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania and Counties of Newcastle, Kent and Sussex on Delaware.

To Robert Irwin—Gentleman:

I do hereby constitute and appoint you, the said R. Irwin, to be Chief Waggon Master to the Forces employed in the Service of this Province under the Command of Col^t William Clapham, and also Conductor of all Boats and Canoes to be employed for the use of the said Provincial Forces. You are therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the Duties of Waggon Master & Conductor of the Boats & Cannoes, and to follow such Orders and Directions as you shall from time to time receive from my self or from the said Wm. Clapham, or other your superior officers. Given under my Hand and Seal at Arms, at Philadelphia, the 12th Day of April, in the 29th year of His Majesty's Reign & in the year of our Lord 1756.

Indorsed.

Draught Commission to Robt Irwin, Waggon Master, 12 Ap^r., 1756.

Instructions to Robert Irwin, 1756.

Instructions to Robert Irwin, Waggon Master and Conductor of the Boats and Canoes to the Forces employed in the Service of this Province, under the Command of Colonel William Clapham:

You are to take particular care that all the Waggons, Carts and Carriages * * * * * * be kept constantly tight and strong, the Wheels well greased and in good order and Condition, that the Drivers and other attendants on the same do diligently and faithfully perform their proper Duties of all which you are from time to time (or as often as required) to give an Account to the Commanding Officer of the said Forces that in case of Failure the Delinquent may be furnished according to their Deserts.

In like manner you are to take special care of the Boats and Canoes, and observe the like directions as is given with respect to Waggons, &c.

You are to take care that none of the Harness, Paddles, Oars, Poles, Tools, Materials or Stores be misapplied, embezzled or converted to private use on any pretence whatsoever, as it may be in your Power to prevent the same, but upon the first notice you receive

of any such male practice you are to acquaint the Commanding Officer of the Forces therewith.

You are to take care that none of the Publick Waggons, Carts, Carriages, Boats or Canoes be applied to any other uses or Services than such as they are particularly appointed or appropriated to without particular Direction from me or the Commanding Officer of the said Forces.

You are from Time to Time to acquaint the Commanding Officer of the said Forces if any of the Waggons, Carts, Carriages, Boats or Canoes are disabled or are lost or taken by the Enemy, together with the manner and how and where to the best of your knowledge and Enquiry to the end that others may be procured.

When the Forces are ordered to March you are to see that all the Waggons, Carts, Carriages, Boats and Canoes proceed according to the Disposition that shall be given you by the Commanding Officer and that all the Attendants or the Horses be upon their proper posts and Divisions.

You are to keep an exact Account of the times for and the Terms on which any Waggon, Cart or Carriage, Boat or Canoe is hired and when discharged.

You are to give receipts for what things you receive into your care, and take Receipts for what you deliver out.

You are to pay no Money without an Account specifying the Particulars and receipt from the Person to whom you Pay it.

You are to keep fair and regular Accounts of all your Transactions, and Deliver them when demanded to the Commanding Officer, and in any difficulty you must not fail to take his particular directions.

12th April, 1756.

Indorsed.

Instructions to Robert Irwin, Waggon Master and Conductor of the Boats & Canoes. 12 April, 1756.

Gov. M. to the Commissioners, 1756.

April 13th, 1756.

Gentm:

As we have many Prisoners in the Hands of the Enemy Indians It may be of considerable advantage and will, I doubt not, be very gratefull to the Province If I am enabled to offer a reward for bringing them in alive, which I think had best be done in the same proclamation with the other rewards you have already proposed.

I imagine the same rewards that are offered for the Indian Men Prisoners will be sufficient, as there will be no risque in bringing

them off. As I propose to to Publish the Proclamation to-morrow I should be glad of your opinion upon this matter in the morning.

I think to offer the reward for Indian men above twelve years of age, which your former letter will support, unless yon desire it otherwise in the morning.

To ye Commissioners.

Indorsed.

Govr to the Com^rs, 12 Ap^r, 1756, about English Prisoners.

Gov. Morris to the Commissioners, 1756.

16 Apr. 1756.

Gent^n:

I have ordered Coll^o Clapham to Rendezvous his Regiment at or near Hunter's Mill, upon the Sasquehanna, where I have directed a number of cannoes to be collected and fitted for transporting the Stores to Shamokin; I believe you will think it necessary to form a Magazine of Provisions and other warlike stores there, at least sufficient to supply the troops employ'd at Shamokin; Coll^o Clapham will fix upon and fit up proper Places for the reception of the Stores, and will place proper guards upon them, and having some time ago delivered in to the Commissioners a list of things for that expedition, I hope you have directed them to be prepared, or such of them as you Judged necessary, and as a large detachment of that Regiment will move from hence when the weather will permit, I recommend it to you to send such provisions and stores as are ready, under their care to the Rendezvous.

I have, agreeable to your request, order'd a detachm^t of thirty men of Clapham's regiment to proceed to Carlisle, and there to be posted in the best manner for the security and defence of that town.

Sir Charles Hardy writes me, that by an Act of Assembly in his Governm^t, provision is made for a number of men, not exceeding 400, to act in conjunction with the troops of this Province, and two hundred from New Jersey, in an offensive war against the Indians. The manner proposed by him for employing those troops, is to send them to the Indian towns, or the places of their retreat, either in a body or separately, as the intelligence of the strength and Circumstances of the Enemy may make necessary. I do not see how any other plan of operations can be proposed, with regard to such an enemy as Indians.

You will permit me to observe, Gentlemen, that if four hundred men are raised to act in conjunction with the New York & Jersey troops, as they are all to be employed in this Province, we shall have

the benefit of a thousand men for the expence of four hundred only. And as Sr Charles presses this matter upon me, I must beg you will enable me to give him an explicit answer.

Indorsed.—Draught Lre to the Comrs, 16 Apr. 1756.

Gov. Morris to the Commissioners, 1756.

Saturday, Aprill 17th, 1756.

Gentlemen:

As I am not well enough to attend you this morning, it may forward business if I observe to you, that the Assembly, by their message of yesterday, decline providing for the expences of the Indians now in town, but think they ought to be defray'd by the Commissionrs out of the sixty thousand pounds, as you will see by their message, which I send you herewith, and as Montour & Scarriady express some uneasinass that they have not received any reward for their services, I hope you will enable me to reward them properly, and among other things, to give them some fine cloaths, which will be more agreeable to them than any thing else, and they petition for an immediate supply of pocket money.

Indorsed.—Dft to the Commissioners, Aprill 18th, 1756.

John Harris to Edward Shippen, 1756.

Paxton, April 17th, 1756.

Sir:

The Canoes that must be Employ'd for the Service on our River, are in general too Small, therefore it is Absolutely necessary to have a small number of Battoes Immediately made, as they will carry a much Larger Burden, Keep but the same number of hands Employ'd in working them up the River as our small Canoes will, and will certainly answer the Purpose better, as the Sides will be higher, to Keep out the waves in our falls , wch will be always to pass through; and in high winds, wch may sometimes happen, there will not be the least Danger of Passing up or down this River in a Batoe, when a Canoe must be unloaded or Damage her Cargo; therefore, as I think my Self a Judge of our River Navigation, and the most Necessary and Servisable Vessels to be Employ'd in it, I think it my Duty to Write you this Letter, and also to Inform you that Wm. Chesnut will Supply you in Suitable plank upon Getting Di-

rections, to make the Batoes; the boards, I Imagine, is not to be Sawed after the Common Manner.

I am in haste, Sir,

Yr most Obedient

Humble Servt,

JOHN HARRIS.

P. S.—Be pleas'd to Write me a line if you have any thing to Say. Yrs,

J. H.

Directed.

To Edward Shippen, Esqr,
at Lancaster.

Indorsed.—Aprill 17th, 1756. John Harris.

Conrad Weiser to Gov. Morris, 1756.

May it please the Governor,

I was required by some of the Gentlemen of the Comissioners to wat on your Honour, about this time in order assist in setling the presents for Scaruiady and other Indians now in town, and as you are engaged in Company, I thought it as Convenient to put my thoughts about that affair to writing, which are as follows:

To Scaruiady a Sute of Cloths, and 40 or 50 dollars in money to Andw Montour, as the Governor & the Gentlemen the Comissioners, pleases, he is to have more then Scaruiady, and he can talk with your Honour & the Comissioners himself.

Jonathan was not hired by the Government, but went up with the two former at their request, and suffered or underwent the same danger, he should have a Sute of Cloths.

The rest should all be Clothed and a few Dollars in their Pocket. If any Stays with us they should fare as well as those that goes away.

Silver Hill should be bribed to stay.

The womens should have each a Strowd Matchcoat, a Shirt, a pair of Indian Stocking, a few dresed Dear Skins for shoes, perhaps undressed will do for those that stay, the above is my simple opinion which submit to your Honour, who am your very obedient,

CONRAD WEISER.*

April the 17, at about 5 in the afternoon.

Indorsed,

Conrad Weiser.

* See Colon. Rec. Vol. VII. p. 95.

Gov. M. to Govr. Hardy, 1756.

Sir:

Some days ago I wrote you* that it was my opinion no other plan could be laid for carrying on a war against Indians, than that you had proposed of finding out and attacking their towns—and by that means removing the the war into their Country, & My Commissioners seem to be of the same opinion, But think that the best way of doing it is by giving large rewards for Prisoners & Scalps—this indeed may induce men to go out in company, but the cutting off one or two small partys will put a stop to that kind of war.

The four hundred men for the Shamokin Expeditions, are almost complete, and I am forming a magazine of Provisions and stores upon the Sasquahana, for the troops that are employed upon the frontiers, and as a wooden fort or Staccado will answer the present purpose, those troops will be soon at liberty to act in conjunction with yours.

I imagine from the steps taken by the French & Indians, at the great carrying place that they intend to obstruct our Passages to Oswego, and Considering the length of the wood Creek and the nature of the Country bordering upon that and the Onandago River, that it will not be a very difficult task, with a few men employed there to do us considerable damage and delay our motions, and with great submission I must think that the men posted at that pass were not sufficient for maintaining a post of that importance, upon the Holding of which not only the operations upon the lakes, but even the possession of Oswego depended, but I hope Gen. Johnsons Intelligence, and timely assistance will disapoint the designs of the French, and Save us the trouble of retaking that pass.

I can't help thinking that we should have had more men upon the Carrying place, considering the importance of the pass, and that our operations to the westward, and even the Possession of Oswego depended upon our being masters of it. However I hope the orders you have given & Sr William Johnsons timely execution of them, will press open the Communication to Oswego, and save the trouble of retaking that place.

A party of fifty men from one of our western forts, have had an engagement with about sixty Indians, in which we suffered considerably, there being only thirty of our men returned of which twenty-five are wounded.

A vessel arrived here last night who spoke with a ship bound into Virginia, that left London the first week in March, when things were in the same state, no war declared, but the English continued taking the French ships, we have also an account from the West Indies which I believe may be depended on that the Warwick man of war,

* See p. 606.

was taken off Martinico by three French ships of ye Line, and a Frigate.

Indorsed.

Draft to Sr Charles Hardy,
18th April 1756.

Gen'l Shirley to Gov. M., 1756.

Boston, Sunday, April 18, 1756.

Dear Sir,

Two days ago I receiv'd letters from your Nephew, Staats, and Major Rutherford, informing me that Lord Loudon was appointed Commander in Chief of his Majys Forces in North America, and yt Colonels Abercrombie and Webb, both made Lt. Generals upon this Occasion, are put upon the Staff; and yt General Webb was to set out in the packet boat in ten days for North America, in order to take upon him the whole Command untill the Arrival of Lord Loudon; and I hear the Governt of Jamaica is determin'd upon for me.

Upon this Occasion I think it my Indispensable Duty to push on all preparations for both Expeditions with as much Vigour as I was doing it before; and in case of any accidents befalling Gen1. Webb in his passage, or not arriving here in time to begin the Operations when they ought to be, to begin them myself; For the News I have receiv'd, coming by private letters only, I can't take notice of it; However, as I am previously appriz'd of these Alterations, and that I may soon expect Orders in pursuance of them, It will be absolutely necessary for me to hold a Council of Warr at New York, consisting of Governours and Field Officers, (if to be had) according to his Majys Instructions, before I enter upon any Operation.

In my way thro' Connecticutt I will engage Govr. Fitch, as I will Govr. Hopkins likewise, if I can, to be present at the Council; and as it is a matter of great Importance to his Majys Service, as well of Consequence to my self, I must intreat the favour of you not to fail meeting me at New York, wch would infinitely oblige,

My Dear, Sir,
Your most Affectionate,
Humble Servant,
W. SHIRLEY.

Staats hath acquitted himself in the business I sent him upon, with much honour to me, and to himself in the Opinion of the Ministry.

See answer 25, Ap. p. 643.

The Affair of Jamaica must be a dead Secret. I set out from hence for New York on Wensday afternoon without fail, and shall be there by Monday night after.

If General Webb should be arriv'd before Monday, come se'n night at New York; there will not be the same necessity of your giving yourself the trouble to meet me.

Honble Robt. Hunter Morris, Esqr.

Indorsed,

Aprill 18th, 1756, Genl. Shirley.

James Burd to Gov. M., 1756.

Carlisle, 19th Aprile, 1756.

Sir,

I arrived here on Friday evening, and began Immediately to Recruit, but found few Volunteers, and all that I have been able to Enlist is 4 men for 12 months; & altho' I told the Commiss^rs again and again Candidly, that their would be a good deal of Difficulty in filling up the Comp^ys, (with^t Advance Money) yett they were of Opinion that their would be men enough gott without Running the Risque of Advancing, but I must begg leave to inform your Hon^r that the Commiss^rs are deceived in this, as they will be in any dependances they may have on Assistance from the Country, from People who are not in their pay.

On Saturday Afternoon Captn. Mercer Arrived here, and is Recruiting for his Comp^y at Fort Shirley, & as he was a Stranger in Town, I have procured him Thirty pound from M^r. Francis West upon my Obligation, & for which Captn. Mercer gives M^r. West a Draught upon the Commiss^rs, This I thought myself under Obligation to do for the good of the Service, which is an Interest I shall always have at Heart.

I intended to have March'd this Morning for Fort Granville, but the Creeks is so high that the Carriers can't Attempt to gett their horses & loads over, but hope to be able to go to-morrow Morning; I shall Return here with M^r. Salter towards the latter end of this week or ye begining of the week following, in order to Recruit my Comp^y.

I am inform'd that they are entirely out of all manner of Provisions at Fort Granville, which is a very bad Situation, as the Enemy are Constantly Visiting them; they have wounded two men within sight of ye Fort, & one of ye men's lives are dispair'd of, they would have Carried off one of them had not Lew^t. Ward rushed out of the Fort & Rescued him; M^r. Ward sent a Detatchem^t under

ye Com^d of Ensigne Clark after the Enemy, but could not come up with them.

I could wish we had a Surgeon, & Medicines, we shall loose one half of our men, with perhaps Slight wounds, purely for want of Assistance.

I am glad that I have no disagreeable news of late Encurtions by ye Enemy to sting your Hon^rs ears with, But I am convinced that unless these Garisons are Reinforced to 150 men each, & Sufficient stores of Amunition & Provisions, that this part of our Province will be forced.

I am most Respectfully,
Your Hon^rs
Most Obed^t humble Servt,
JAMES BURD.

I hope ye Govr. will Excuse this Scrall, as their is a Scarcity of Quills here.

22^d Apr. 1756, the above Matters are recommended to the Cons^n of the Commissioners.

By His Honour's Command,
RICHARD PETERS.

Indorsed,
19 Apr. 1756, Captn. James Burd.

Capt. Hugh Mercer to Gov. M., 1756.

Carlisle, 19th April, 1756.

Honoured Sir,

The Commissary General of the Musters, with your Honour's Instructions to review and Pay off the Garrison att Fort Shirley, arrived in a very lucky time, when the greater part of our Men were about to abandon the Fort for want of Pay, It was with great difficulty I could prevent their doing so for three Weeks before, that is ever since the time of enlistment had been expired. I am sorrey to observe that numbers of our best men have declined the Service, and reduced me to the necessity of recruiting anew, thro' diffidence with regard to their Pay, and I have been oblidged to engage that even such as left us when paid off, should have the same allowance as formerly for their Overplus time, depending upon my being reimbursed, as without such ingagement it was impossible to prevent the fort from falling into the Enemys hands. I am now about filling up my Company to Sixty Men, agreeable to your Orders, And have drawn upon the Commissionaries for £30 for this purpose. A Garrison of thirty Men are now att Fort Shirley, engaged to remain there

till the first of May, by which time I am in hopes of compleating the Company, And shall immediately thereupon repair thither; It is to be feared that Our Communication with the Settlement will soon be cut off, unless a greater force is Ordered for the Garrison, As Your Honour is sensible that I can send no detachment to escort provisions, equal in force to Parties of the Enemy who have lately made Attempts upon our frontiers, and considering how short of Provisions we have hitherto been kept, the Loss of One Party upon this duty must reduce us to the last necessity.

Mr. Hugh Crawford is upon the Return of Leutenant, and Mr. Thos. Smallman, who acted before as Commissary in the Fort, as Ensign to my Company; It will be a particular obligation laid upon me to have an Exchange of Mr. James Hays for Leutenant, and Mr. Smallman continued. And Perhaps Mr. Crawford would be satisfied to fill Mr. Hays' Place with Captn. Paterson, as numbers of that Company are of his Acquaintance. I have given Mr. Croghan a Receipt for what Arms and other necessary Articles belonging to him are att Fort Shirley, a Copy of which, together with my Journall and General Return, shall be sent by Capt. Salter; and find it impossible to Arm my Men or compleat what yet remains of our Outworks without them. The Guns are preferable to those belonging to the Government, and I hope will be purchased for our Use.

Capt. Salter will inform your Honour how unfitt the Arms in General are for Use, even after being righted by a Gunsmith, whose Account is very Considerable; besides, We have no Cartridge Boxes, nor any convenient pouches for Powder & Lead, so that in complying with Your Instructions of giving a Detail of what is wanting for the Company, I may mention in General, Arms and Accoutriments, besides Orders to the Commissary for a large Supply of Provisions att Once, And regular pay Once a Month; it will put me to extream difficulty if the Commissionaries do not think proper to remit me Money to pay my Men by the first of May. I have wrote them to this purpose, and beg Your Honour will enable me to fulfill my engagements with the Company, without which I can hope for very little Satisfaction in serving the Publick.

The trust your Honour has been pleas'd to repose in me in giving me the Command of Fort Shirley, calls for my warm Acknowledgements, and cannot fail of engaging my utmost attention and zeal in the execution of your Orders.

I am, Your Honour's
Most obedient and most
humble Servt,
HUGH MERCER.

Directed,

To the Honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Commander in Chief of the Province of Pensilvania.

(Copied.)

Indorsed.—19 Apr. 1756, Captn. Hugh Mercer.

Edwd. Shippen to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Lancaster, the 19th April, 1756,

Honoured Sir:

I have been at Capt. McKees Fort where I found about ten Indians, men women and children, three of the women lying very ill in bed. The Captain tells me that Johny Shekallimy is greatly Disatisfied with being there; and has several times been much out of Temper which he would hope was owing to nothing but ye sickness of the Indians, & to their being often insulted by the fearful ignorant people who have Sometimes told Shekallimy to his face, that they had a good mind to Scalp him. Shekallimy let me know that he wished the Indians would be moved down to Barny Hughes, where Capt. McKees woman, and Children live and afterwards if the Governor thought proper he would go to Wyoming, and endeavour to bring Down Buckshenoath a great man, a Shawanese Captain, who would have come with him now; but the Delawares would not permit it, he says that at the Council at Wyoming whither your Honour sent Silver heels and the belt, to know why the Indians Struck their brethren the English; This Shawanese Captain observed, that it was not more than one night and a half, (meaning a year and a half,) Since he had taken the Governor by the hand, & heard every thing that he Said, which was very kind, & loving, and why Should he forget him so soon? that he was then Sitting between the Six Nations, and the Governour, taking one in each hand. That Council consisted of Shawanys, Chickasaws, Mohickens, and Some of the Six Nations, and Shekallimy was appointed to give the answer, who Spoke and Said, You our young brothers the Shawanese it may be know the reason of Striking the English, as you are always in Council with the Delawares, no answered the Shawanese, directing their Discourse to the Six nations—saying Old Brothers, we cannot tell why the hatchet was taken up against the English, but you know the reason of it who were always with them at General Braddocks battle.

Shekallimy Says there are about 400 Indian Warriors at Tiaogo of the Six Nations, Delawares, Munsees, and Shawanese; and about 40 more at Wyoming, vizt. ten Mohickens, ten Mingoes, & 20 Shawanese, he Says, if we attempt to go up to Shamokin to build a Fort, we may expect to be attacked by a body of five hundred Indians in our march.

According to Your Honours Instructions to Mr. Burd, I have prevailed with Shekellimy to Stay where he is till he can hear again from your Honour, I pity the Sick Indians much, because there is neither Sheep, Calves, or poultry to be got in that part of the Country, and tho' game is very plenty yet the Indians dare not venture out of the Fort for fear of being murdered, and the Captain informs me that the Garrison has been but poorly served; the provisions having been very ordinary, but they are now a little better used, yet

he would fain believe, the persons employed about them did their best: he finds that one pound of Burlington Pork will go as far as two pounds made in that Country. John Harris has built an excellent Stockado round his house which is ye only place of Security that way, for the provisions for ye army, he having much good cellar room, and as he has but six or seven men to guard it, if the Government would order six more men there to strengthen it, it would in my opinion be of great use to the cause, even were no provisions to be Stored there at all; tho' there is no room for any scarce in Captain McKees Fort. Hunters house indeed, would answer such a purpose were it Stockado'd; but as it is quite naked, and stands five or six hundred feet from the Fort, the enemy may Surprise it in ye night, and kill the people, and set ye roof on fire in three or four places at once, and if the Centerys Should discern the fire as soon as it begins to blaze, it might be too difficult a task for them to quench it without buckets or pails. I speak with Submission, but this Stockade of Harris's ought by all means to be supported, for if for want of this small addition of men abovementioned, the Indians should destroy it, the Consequence would be that most of ye Inhabitants within twenty miles of his house would immediately leave their Plantations, the Enemy can come over the hills at five Miles Distance from McKees Fort. But notwithstanding all I have Said on the head, I am convinced that the Number of Stockades set up and down the Country do more hurt than good.

By the best intelligence I can get, it will be best for Colonel Clapham to march his Regiment on ye west side of ye Susquehannah, after first marching eight or nine miles on this Side: the only difficulty will be in crossing the River: I know there are several bad passes, as far as Captain McKees Plantation, where I have been: it is but 25 miles from Hunters Mill.

I ought to acquainted your honour before that I have cautioned Captain McKee, against suffering any body to abuse the Indians for the future; and by all means, have advised him to keep a Strickt watch over the young Frenchman, whom he has under his care.

Inclosed is a Letter from Mr. Harris, and also a memorandum. At the request of a poor neighbour of his, who has but one hand to work with for his living, I send an acco^t of Some losses which he assures me he sustained by the Indians whom Mr. Harris maintained at the Charge of the Government. Please to pardon my prolixity, and permit me to say that I am,

Your Honours most affectionate

Humble Servt,

EDWD. SHIPPEN.

Directed.

To the Honble The Governor.

Indorsed.

Edward Shippen.

Joseph Shippen Junr. to Gov. M. 1756.

Honoured Sir:

I am to inform Your Honour that I came home last night from the Susquehannah, and have engaged twenty seven Canoes, a Return whereof I here inclose, with a Letter to Colo. Chapham, which after perusal I beg Your Honour will be pleased to seal up.

If the Commission for my Ensign is not filled, I would take the Liberty to recommend to Your Honour one Mr. John Lowdon, living at Susquehannah, for that office; he is a young Gentleman of good Sense, great activity & Spirit, of whom I did not once think of when I wrote to Your Honour before.

I am,
Your Honour's
Most Obedient hum. Servt,
JOSEPH SHIPPEN, Junr.

Lancaster, 19th April, 1956.
To the Honble The Governor.

Directed.
(On His Majesty's Service.) To the Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esq., Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania.
℞ Mr. John Carson.

Indorsed.
Joseph Shippen.

Address of Indians at Bethlehem to Gov., 1756.

To the Honourable the Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania.

The Address of the Indians in Bethlehem.

When our Brethren at the Mahoney were murdered, we were exceedingly grieved, & imediatly put ourselves under the English Government & came to Bethlehem. After we had been some time here, we sent you a Letter to tell you how it was in our Hearts, & you answered us with good Words. We were very glad & thankful for them. You said we shod. live still & quiet in Bethlehem, & which we have done. The Brethren have likewise done much for us, & have not let us want for any Thing. We have also heard much of our God & of his Love towards us, & we love the Truth. This causeth us to love the great King, the Governor & the English Government. Now we have heard thy new Words, by which we can see you are very merciful towards us & other peaceable Indians, & that you take us, with our Wives & Children, again under your Protection. We

thank you many very many times for it, & pray God that you may be successful against the wicked Indian Enemies. When our Wives & Children had heard your Words, they were very thankful. This, with our hearty Salutations, is all what we have to write.

Signed in the Name of the Whole.

JOSUA,
AUGUSTUS,*
JACOB,
ANTON,

Bethlehem, 20th. April, 1756.

The Foregoing is a true Translation † of the German, as taken from the Indians own Mouths, compared therewith by me.

J. OKELY.

Indorsed.

20th. Apr. 1756. An Address of the Indians at Bethlehem.

GOV. MORRIS TO COMMISSIONERS, 1756.

Aprill 20th, 1756.

Gent.:

Herewith I send you the State of the forces in Northampton County, and a letter from Collo Clapham relating to them, & some other matters proper for your Consideration, and agreeable to your request, by Mr. Mifflin, I shall give the necessary orders to Van Etten, and to the men posted at Broadhead's The remainder of Clapham's men, being seventy-three, marched yesterday, and I hope the necessary arms, accoutriments, and other things for that Expedn will soon be ready to follow them.

This moment the inclosed letters from Mr. Steel and Captain McKee, came to hand; you will observe the great want of arms & Blankets in Cumberland County, and order a supply of both, as soon as may be; and if you chuse to have Capn McKee's Company muster'd and paid by the Commissary in his return, I will send the necessary orders to meet him at Harris's ferry, and you will in that case convey money to him to enable him to comply with them.

Indorsed.—Aprill 20th 1756. Dft to Commissioners.

* See Colon. Rec. Vol. VII, p. 118.

† The original in German is appended to it with the native signatures.

Petition of John Hughes to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Sir,

The Bearers hereof, John Mee & Joseph Leacock, having Plantations within one Mile & a half of fort Allen, Desire a Detachment of Men from the s^d fort to Protect them While they put up their fences & burn the Leaves Round their fields; & if Your Honour thinks it Convenient to Grant them that favour, In my Opinion will be Doing them Service.

I am, Sir, with respect,
Your very humbe Servt,
JOHN HUGHES.

April ye 21st, 1756.

Directed.—Govr Morris, Esqr.

Indorsed.—Aprill 21st, 1756. John Hughes.

Gov. Morris to Genl. W. Shirley, 1756.

Philad^a, April 22d, 1756.

Sir,

Mr. Leake has at last gone through the demands upon the Government for services done by order of the late Genl Braddock, in which he has been assisted by Commissioners, whom, at your Excellency's request, I appointed for that particular service. They have examin'd the proofs to support every demand, & rejected such as were not properly vouch'd. This has taken a considerable time and a constant attendance, but without it the Crown must have been a Considerable loser; on the contrary, I am assured by Mr. Leake and other officers who attended the settlement of ye accounts, that the saving to the Crown will amount to several thousand pounds. The Commissioners have distinguished in the best manner the confusion consequent upon such a defeat would admit, what services were done on account of the Artillery, and Captain Ord, pursuant to Your Excellency's direc-rections, will give orders for the payment of the money.

Inclosed I have the Honor to send Your Excellency a Memoranandum which Mr. Leake has drawn up of the Allowance to the Commissioners for their services, which I think reasonable, as they are all men that have considerable business of their own, which they neglected upon this occasion:

Morris,	55
Stedman,	55
McCall,	55
Shippen,	15
Ingles,	30
	210

Indorsed.—Drafts to General Shirley, 22d April, 1756.

Award to Commissioners to Settle Accounts of Gen. Braddock, 1756.

Memorandum.

That Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr, Governour of Pennsylvania, And Robert Leake, Commissary of Provisions, having considered together the Services done by the Commissioners, Appointed to settle the Contracts that the late General Braddock entered into, are of Opinion, that They, the said Commissioners, ought to receive for their said Service, One Guinea p' diem, besides their Expences, And that the Number of days Amount to Fifty-five, in which Mr. Morris, Mr. Stedman, & Mr. McCall were employ'd, and fifteen days, in which Mr. Shippen, was Employ'd, and Thirty days in which Mr. Inglis was Employ'd.

The Expence of Mr. Morris, Mr. Stedman, Mr. McCall, & Mr. Shippen, in the whole amount to	£48
And of Mr. Inglis, ...	6
	£ 54
Amount of Services, 210 Guineas, @ 34	357
Pennsylvania Curr^cy,	£411

Gov. Morris to the Commissioners, 1756.

Gent^n:

The Bearer hereof, George Lyndaman, has this day delivered me the Scalp of an Indian he kill'd near the House of Rich'd Hoffman, one of his neighbours, the Particulars of this affair were some time ago laid before you, and he says he would have been sooner down with the Scalp, but has been under cure of the wound he received in his neck. His danger, Expence, & Pain, render him an Object of Compassion, and entitle him to a speedy notice. I Heartily recommend him to you for the reward promis'd, and what else he may stand in need of, that may be proper for you to supply.

Philad^a, 22d Apr. 1756.

Directed.—The Gentlemen Commissioners.

Indorsed.—22d Apr. 1756. Lre to ye Com^rs sent by George Lyndaman, who delivered a Scalp to ye Govr.

Samuel Hobson to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Sir,

In pursuance of the Order I had received from Colonel Gage to join my Regim^t^, as soon as my Recruiting Partys had come in, I proposed Seting out for that purpose early this morning, but have been prevented by the Sheriffs taking me on a Writ, at the Suit of John Birt, (late Master to John Birt) a Soldier listed by me for His Majestys Service. The Writt was executed by the Sheriff about Seven o'Clock, and half an hour after Eleven I was conducted by him to this Goal. I thought it my duty to acquaint you with this unjustifiable Proceeding, And have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most Obedient

most Obliged humble Servt.

SAM. HOBSON.*

From the Goal of Philadelphia,
April the 23, 1756.

Indorsed.

Cap^n^ Hobson, 23 Ap: 1756.

Copy of Letter to Capt. Samuel Hobson, 1756.

Sir,

I am much concernd to find that your inlisting a man that voluntarily offer'd himself for his Majestys service, should at this time be rewarded with a Goal, but by the Laws of England any man that is, or thinks himself injured, has a right to bring his action to have it determin'd, whether the thing complained of be an injury or not; the King has certain rights too, as head of the Community and Protector of his People, but we have the misfortune to be at such a distance from his Royal Person, that those rights are little known or little regarded here, when that of the meanest subject is carried to the greatest, and sometimes to every indecent highths.

I will, upon your application, do every thing in my power for your assistance, but you are sensible how short my power is, and how little my Influence, since during the whole time of this contest about the Servants, I have not been able to prevail on any one to appear in favour of the Crown, and you must for that reason, and from the great Influence y^t^ popular opinions have upon every body in this Country expect no favour, and if you meet with common justice it is more than your master can boast of having receiv'd in this Province. I think it my duty to let you know that I am ready to give

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. VII., 103.

or procure bail for You when ever that shall be thought necessary, and insist that you admit of no one to be your security but the Person named by me for that purpose. As I have in the Kings Causes no assistance, I am doing what appears to me to be consistent wth the rights of the Crown upon the present occasion, and shall in the mean time do myself the honour to wait on You in your retreat.

I am, Sir,
Yours, &c.

Capt. William* Hobson.

Indorsed.

Copy of a Letter to Capt. William Hobson.
April 23, 1756.

James Hamilton to Gov. Morris, 1756.

April 23, 1756.

Sir:

The Commiss^rs^ have received your Letter in favor of George Lyndamon, and are willing to pay him for the Scalp. But it not appearing that He hath been Sworn as to the time and place of Killing the Indian, they beg you'l please to Send the Scalp by him, that He may be qualified to the Indians being Killd by him, and the Scalp be burnt, if You have no objection to it.

I am, S^r^,
Your most Obed^t^
humble Servant,
JAMES HAMILTON.

To Govr Morris.

Directed.

For The Honble Governor Morris.

Indorsed.—The Commissions to Gov. Morris. April 23, 1756.

Capt. Saml. Hobson to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Sir:

The Sheriffs Servant just now brought me your kind Message in writing, and have also received your obliging present, for all which (with numberless other Favors) I must beg youle accept of my utmost gratitude. Its impossible for me to look upon even this Confinement disagreeable, when thus honor'd with your Countenance; the Sheriff, indeed, took pains to represent it in much worse colours than it appear'd to me, and offer'd me liberty on my Parole. I thank'd him, and said I should take no step but such as you recom-

* (Say Samuel.) See Colon. Rec., Vol. VII., p. 103.

ended, and I dare say you must allow my remaining here a Night or two longer will add weight to our Cause, and must assure you 'twill make little difference in regard to my Self; this will furnish Us with fresh Matterials to help out our Second Address to you, and will be presented tomorrow, Saturday, from Goal.

I am, Sir,
with the greatest Respect,
yor most obligd Servt,
SAM. HOBSON.*

Indorsed,
Captn Hobson. Ap^r. 24, 1756.

Edw'd Shippen to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Lancaster, 24th of April, 1756.

Honoured Sir:

The inclosed is a Copy of a paper which M^r. George Sanderson, of this town, brought here yesterday from Carlisle, said to have been found in M^r. Donvilles† pocket, who was lately killed at the head of a Party of Indians from Fort du Quesne, by the Virginia Militia, on Potowmack.

I See by the news papers, it was Supposed that Captain Culbertson's men, who went in pursuit of the Indians that took McCords Fort, had killed fifteen of the Enemy, among whom they were confident Captain Jacobs is one. If M^r. Francis Campbell, of Shippensburg, wrote that account, as he was one of that party, I suppose it was readily believed, he being known by some Gentlemen in Philadelphia to be a person of Credit and Sense, but his relation of that transaction differs widely from the following story as to the number of Indians killed, which was told to me two days ago by M^r. Benjamin Blythe, living near Shippensburg, who was also in the battle; he says our men gave the first fire, but without any success, that then the Indians ran from their fire place with their arms and amunition, and in less than ten minutes our men found themselves Surrounded, which they did not discover before the Indians fired upon them, that notwithstanding our men were So exposed to ye Enemys fire, and dropping every now and then, they fought about two hours and a half by his watch, and then perceiving a reinforcement from Shinges Party, they unanimously agreed to endeavour to break the enemy's Circle (as he called it,) in order to make their retreat, in which they luckily succeeded; he says they killed but three of the Indians to the best of his knowledge, and that he doubts whether Captain Jacobs was one of them; he rather thinks the man taken to be him, was a great Warriour in his Company. This Blythe is an

* See page 640. † See p. 600.

intelligent sensible man, & of good reputation, he had the misfortune to be Shot through the Arm; he says, that where they broke the Circle three stout Indians, who had just discharged their pieces, rose off the ground from behind a thicket of grubs & ran off, that he drew his tricker at them, but his gun only burnt priming. The Indians make use of rifled guns for the most part, and there is such a difference between these sort of Guns and Smooth bored, that if I was in an Engagement with the Savages, I would rather Stand my chance with one of the former Sort, which might require a minute to clean, load and discharge, than be possessed with a Smooth bored gun which I could discharge three times in ye same space, for at 150 yards distance, with the one, I can put a ball within a foot or Six Inches of ye mark, whereas with the other, I can Seldom or ever hit the board of two feet wide & Six feet long.

I cannot Say I have been pleased with ye Sight of any of the Guns which have been carryed through this Borough for the Service of the Province. I dont mention this as a reflection on the Commissioners, who have done for ye best in that respect; but its still unfortunate for me, Yet I beg your Honour not inform them of this remark. I am,

Your Honours

Most affectionate Hum. Servt,

EDW'D SHIPPEN.

The Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Govr.

Indorsed.

Edward Shippen. Aprill 24th, 1756.

Gov. Morris to Gen. Shirley, 1756.

Philadelphia, 25th April, 1756.

Dear Sir:

It gives me pleasure to find by yours of the 18th* Instant that your Dispatches by my Nephew were safe arrived, and that he had so well acquitted himself in the Business he was sent upon as to gain the good Opinion of the Ministry and your Approbation.

Three Generals on the American staff make it probable that this continent will be the Principal seat of the War, and that the views of ye Ministry are very extensive, but whatever their measures may be, as they are taken Independent of the Plan of Operations agreed upon at New York, and as General Webb was to set out so soon after the Date of the Letters you have received that he may be

* See it on page 630.

expected to arrive every day. It appears to me that the Council of War will not incline to advise you to hasten the Execution of any Part of that Plan, but to wait his Arrival, and in the meantime to make the necessary Preparations with all profitable Vigour & Dispatch.

Probably Sr. Charles Hardie and other Gentlemen may have received the Intelligence wrote you, and if so, they will not fail to publish all they know, and your Adversaries apprized of the alterations will take a Pride in impeding any Operations, tho' they will not venture to obstruct Preparations, and if you can put these into such forwardness as that the General may go upon action as soon as he arrives. You will render yourself extremely acceptable to His Majesty, the Ministry, and disappoint those who may take Occasion to put unfavourable constructions on any measures you shall devise and thence endeavour to set ye Succeeding Commanders against you.

For my own part, my regards for you would prompt me at all adventures to wait on you, but I find myself so much embarassed by the perplexed Circumstances of this unhappy Province that it is not possible for me to follow the strong Inclinations I have to attend you. Your Dispatches found me preparing to set out for the Susquehanah, where the Provincial Forces are waiting for me, in order to proceed on an Expedition *for building a Fort at Shamokin*, & cannot on any Account be retarded, as the Season is already too far advanced, and I shall scarce be able to put them in motion before my Assembly will meet on my Summons to take into consideration how to prevent the total Desertion of the Counties on the Frontiers, of which I have reason to be very apprehensive.

I congratulate you on the King's Determination. I hope the Government intended you will be accompained with the Command of the Regiment there, but sure I am that this change, tho' possibly more profitable to yourself, will not be agreeable to those who wish well to the Northern Colonies, as it must be universally acknowledged that you understand their Interests and Connections perfectly well and can give the best Information and Counsel in any matters respecting them.

Their grateful Acknowledgments will follow you wherever you go; to your well concerted Schemes and well conducted Operations they will attribute the Reduction of Cape Breton, the conquest of Nova Scotia and the lake; advantage gained over the French at Lake George, and indeed every thing that has given these Colonies so high a Reputation and placed them in so conspicuous a Light to his Majesty and ye British Nation.

I am, Dear Sir,

Your most obliged and
very obedient humble
Servant,
ROB. H. MORRIS.

I have been about a Letter to you some time but my Interruptions have hindred me from finishing it.

Indorsed.
Draught L're to General Shirley, 25 Apr, 1756.

Chas. Read to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Dr Sir:

I am told that wth the Indians now at Philadelphia, going wth Collo Clapham, there is one Will. Loguess; if He be there on that Intention I think it my Duty to Inform yr Honr that He is a fellow on whom no Dependance can be had & is impudent & mischievous in his Nature. His father & Relations removed abt two years ago to Wioming where they now are, & 'tis to be feared He will take the first opportunity of going off to the Enemy that presents. He is a Jersey Indian.

I am, in haste,
Yr Honrs
Most Obedt Humble Servt,
CHA. READ.

Burt,
April 25, 1756.
Govr Morris.

Directed.
To The Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr,
Governor of Pennsylvania.

Indorsed.
25 Apr, 1756. Charles Read. Read in Council 26th Apr. C. Weiser, Prest.

Danl. Clause to Rich'd Peters, 1756.

Burlington, 25th Apr, 1756.

Sir:

I arrived here this Evening and found all the Indians safe landed. I represented your Dissatisfaction to them for taking Young Francis and Thos Graham along without the Governours Knowledge. Skaronyade then in his fretting way desired me to answer you Thus, that he neither of these two ask'd to go along, but Mr. Francis went of his own Inclination, and as he thought, with the Consent of his

Friends. At the same time he must perceive now fully that the white people look'd at them as Dogs, and would not trust their Childeren to their Care, whereby they could discover the little Confidence and Love they had to them, and he should think it would strengthen the English Interest more in having many of their People living among them to get acquainted wth their Language & Customs. I convinced him of Mr. Francis's Fault, but as to Graham he said he belonged to their family & would have the Govr to consider him such.

He desires me to acquaint you that they forgot the Scalp without the Belts; it was left at Mr. Weiser's Lodging, and should be glad to have it sent after him. The Boat is immediately returned to Philad^ia^, and my Surtout was left in it. I should be glad your honour would send the Boat Man word to bring it here, and the Tavern-keeper will send it after me.

I am
Sir,
Your most humble Servt,
DAN. CLAUS.

Directed.
To The Revd Richard Peters, Philadelphia.
Indorsed.
25 Ap^r^, 1756. Daniel Claus, from Burlington with Scarroyady

---

Govr. Hardy to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Fort George, New York, 25th Ap^r^, 1756.

Sir:

I have received a Letter from Sir William Johnson, of the 18th dated from Burnett's Field, where he arrived that Day, with some Regulars, Militia and Indians, and have now the Pleasure to inform you that the Important Post of Oswego was not invested as sett forth by the Indians, and Coll^o^ Mercer is of opinion what they took for large Bodys were only Scalping Partys.

I have received your Letter of the 18th,* and shall be extremely glad to render you my best Services, by joining some Forces of this Province to those of yours, should there be occasion for it, when the Service of Building the Fort at Shamokin is over. But I trust the Breach with the Shawanese will be Accommodated by that time.

The late Allarm carried Sir Wm. Johnson with the Militia as far as the Carrying Place, which I suppose prevented him from giving me further accounts of that matter.

By Letters I have received from London by a Vessell arrived at Boston in Seven Weeks, I have an account that Lord Loudon is

* See page 629.

Appointed Commander-in-Chief of his Majesty's Forces in America, and that he brings with him two Regiments and Major General Abercrombie Colonel of one of them.

I am, with great Regard,
Sir,
Your most Obed^t
Humble Servant,
CHAS. HARDY.

The Honble Govr Morris.

Indorsed.
25 Ap^r, 1756. S^r. Charles Hardie.

Gov. Morris, to Rich. Peters, 1756.

Dear Sir,

By the Western post I have a letter from E. Shippen, enclosing a clause of a letter from Capt. McKee, by which I find that John Shekallemy is gone off, which McKee attributed to ye threats he received from the country People. I have a Confused letter from W. Trent at Carlisle, giving an account that five Swiss familys were gone from York county to Joyn the French, and that many Roman Catholicks in York & Frederick counties had engaged to go off to ye Ohio, there does not appear to me much truth in this account. But another he gives, and is confirmed by a letter from Coll. Wood of Virginia, seems too true; the Letter says that 100 men from fort Cumberland, were at Joseph Edward's on Saturday ye 17th Instant, under the command of Cap. Jno. Mercer, in the evening, finding Indians were very near, the Capt, marched out with 40 men, and not far from the plantation, were drawn into a snare; the enemy had vast advantages of them, killd Capt. Mercer, Lieut. Carter, and 18 men. I am, dear sir,

Your Very Humble Servt.
ROBT. H. MORRIS.

Buck, Wednesday evening, April 28, 1756.

Directed,

To Richard Peters, Esqr,, Philad^a.

Indorsed,

28 Apr. 1756. Governor Morris.

* See it, page 634.

Gov. Morris to Robert Strettell, &c., 1756.

Lancaster, May 1st, 1756.

Gentn.

I got to this place last night, through ye rain, and propose tomorrow to proceed to Harris's Ferry, where ye Troops are assembling very fast, and will be complete in a little time.

On the road I met ye western Post, who brought me a letter and a Memorandum, Copys whereof are under this cover. The Accounts in both are very extraordinary, and I am apt to believe false, especially, that of ye Defection in York and Fredrick counties. Be pleased when you have done with the inclosed Copys, to send them to the Comissioners. I am, Gentn,

Your most obedt. Humble servt.

ROBT. H. MORRIS.

Directed.

To the Honourable Robert Strettall, Esqr, &c., of the Council.

Indorsed.

Janur, 1st. May, 1756. Govrs. Lre. to the Council, reced. 4th. P. M.

Gov. Morris to R. Peters, 1756.

Lancaster, May 4, 1756.

Dear Sir.

I had your favour by Capt. Lloyd, last night, and having made some alterations in the Proclamation, I shall Publish it here to-day, and you will have it time enough to put into the Thursdays paper. I wish, with you, the Declaration of war had been delayd a day or two longer, but it was a right measure at the time thought so by myself and every body but the Quakers, and for that reason ought to give us no uneasiness; I think the message to Wioming will hinder any mischief, and our people, I believe, are not fond of going out upon parties since the battle at Sidling Mills. I write to Sr. Charles Hardy, wch you will forward, and as I cannot withdraw the declaration, I do not see what kind of Publication I can make, but if you and the Council think of one that is Proper, I shall have no objection. I do not find by what passd at Fort Johnson, that the Delawares have sent messages to call in their scalping parties, or that they mention the return of the Prisoners.

My friend, Mr. Morris, the Bearer of this, applyd to me for a

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. VII., p. 110.

Patent for a ferry over Schuylkill, of which he had had some talk with you, I told Him I was very inclinable to serve him if it was in my power, tho I had some Instructions from the Prop^rs. as to that matter, but did not recolect what they were, that I would speak to you upon the Head, and either grant what he asked, or let him know the reason why I could not; and renuing his application here, I desired he would give me a note of what he wanted, which you have enclosed, and upon which you will give me your thoughts. I would gladly serve him in this affair, and you will therefore put me in the way of doing all I can without acting counter to my Instructions, and either send me the proper instruments, or have them prepared against my return, as you shall Judge best.

We go on hitherto very well, your brother is in high health and spirits, and when we get into our geers in a camp, we shall do things very regularly; and, as Riding does you good, you may come and see us, as I believe it will be some time before the troops move off for want of more arms, and from the badness of those they have, which I am obliged to take gunsmiths from this town to repair. Remember me to all friends, and believe me D^r. Sir,

Your Affectionate Humble Servt.

ROBT. H. MORRIS.

The Inclosed, from Burd, came to me last night, send it to the Commiss^rs., & forward the certificates to me, as the not paying men that have done duty, discourages the service.

Directed.

To Richard Peters, Esqr., at Philad^a., by favour of Saml. Morris, Esqr.

Indorsed.

Govern^r. Morris.

Proclamation of Gov. Morris for a Fast, 1756.

By the Honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania, and Counties of Newcastle, Kent, and Sussex, on Delaware.

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas it is often the Method of God's Providence, for the Glory of His Name and the Maintenance of true Holiness, graciously to visit his People for their Sins, and in a more solemn manner to call them to Repentance by awakening Judgments from Heaven, which if neglected or contemned, render such a People still more

obnoxious to divine Displeasure. And Whereas at this present time the Judgments of the Lord seem visibly to be abroad upon the Earth, whose habitable parts have been almost universally agitated with frequent and most dreadful Earthquakes, great Cities in divers places being overturned & many Thousands of their Inhabitants buried in the ruins, and Sin and Wickedness nevertheless still extensively prevailing. And Whereas Our most gracious Sovereign, touched with a deep Sense of these things, and a thorough Concern for the Glory of God and the Prosperity of His Dominions, was pleased to appoint and command a Day of public Fasting, Prayer and Supplication, and most fervently to join with his good Subjects in one grand and solemn Act of Devotion before the Lord of Lords and King of Kings, to implore Him to avert just Judgments from us, to continue his Mercies towards us, to perpetuate the Enjoyment of the Protestant religion, and to protect and bless our Fleets and Armies; And Whereas the Imitation of such an illustrious Example is not only our indispensible Duty on so awful and interesting an Occasion, as we are equally concerned with others of His faithful Subjects in the general Safety and Prosperity of His Dominions, but now especially, as this Province is particularly visited with the murdering Sword of a savage Enemy, a considerable part of it being already laid waste by their bloody ravages, great Numbers of our unhappy Fellow Subjects cruelly murdered, and others carried into a barbarous Captivity; and the approaching Summer opening a prospect that seems big with the Fate of these Colonies, and more nearly interesting their future Safety than any period which they have ever yet beheld.

Wherefore, upon mature Consideration of these matters, I have thought fit, by the Advise of the Council, to appoint and set apart Friday, the twenty-first day of May Instant, to be observed throughout this Province and Counties under my Government, as a Day of public Fasting and general Humiliation before the Lord our God, that we may with one Heart and Voice, in the most solemn and devout manner, send up our united prayers and Supplications to the Throne of Grace and Mercy, for the forgiveness both of our private and publick Sins, for averting the punishments justly due to them; for reformation and Amendment of Manners; for Harmony and public Spirit in all our Transactions; for a Blessing upon His Majesty's Arms employ'd in the Defence of our just rights, both by Sea and Land; for Consolation and redress to our suffering Brethren and Neighbours; for a speedy Deliverance from our cruel and bloodthirsty Enemies; and for the continuing among us and spreading abroad to the remotest part of this dark Continent, the inestimable Blessings of British Liberty, and the pure Light of the Protestant Religion, equally reformed from vain Superstition and giddy Enthusiasm.

And I do therefore Order and require that the said Public Fast be religiously observed and kept, for the purposes aforesaid, by all His Majesty's loving Subjects within this Province and Counties,

of whatsoever Denomination. And I recomend it to the several Ministers of the Gospel to compose Prayers and Sermons suitable to the occasion, to be used in their respective Churches and places of Worship on that Day; And they are further required to publish this Proclamation to their Congregations during the Divine Service the next preceding Lord's Day.

Given under my Hand and the Great Seal of the said Province, at Lancaster, the fourth day of May, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty-Six, and in the twenty-ninth Year of the reign of Our Sovereign Lord, George the Second, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c., &c.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

[L. S.] ROBT. H. MORRIS.*

RICHARD PETERS TO GENL. SHIRLEY, 1756.

Philadelphia, 6th May 1756.

Sir:

In the absence of the Governor who went last Week to the Frontier Counties, the Council opened your Excellency's Letter of the 2d Instant, inclosing one of the 24th April, from Sir William Johnson, to you finding great fault with Governor Morris for issuing his Proclamation† declaring the Delawares, tho' they were carrying on a most destructive and ruinous War against this Province, Enemies to his Majesty and offering a Reward for their Scalps—and on considering this Letter together with what your Excellency is pleased to say vizt.: that if there shoud appear any thing to governor Morris, "which upon a Reconsideration of this matter may make it adviseable for him to suspend Hostilities against the Indians affected by "his Declaration until the result of Sir William Johnson, Meeting "the Indians at Onondago is known. You did not doubt but he "woud think it a prudent Measure," and on likewise considering the Several Letters from Sir Charles Hardy Copys of some of which are inclosed, the Council have unanimously resolved to advise the Governor to Publish a Cessation of Hostilities against the Susquehannah Delawares, until further order, and have directed me to acquaint you with their having done so; and that they woud likewise have advised a general Cessation of Hostilities against the Delaware Tribe, was it not a matter of Fact that those from Ohio have but lately appeared in large Bodys on our Western Frontiers, and killed

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. VII., p. 210, also Archives, (Peters's Letter to the Governor, page 654.)

† See Colon. Rec. Vol. VII. p. 88.

and carried away great Numbers of our Inhabitants over Susquehannah, and by the last post from Annapolis it is expressly wrote by the Post Master there that these Delaware Indians were then murdering twelve miles within Winchester, having destroy'd the settlements at Conegochege and the Conollaways and other places, as well in our Province as in Maryland and Virginia, and in several Depositions taken of Prisoners, who have from time to time made their Escape from these Delawares, it is positively declared that they were meditating a grand attack on the Inhabitants of this and the neighbouring Provinces and that we may expect them as soon as their Indian Corn is Planted to the number of two thousand Indians of different nations all embodied against us by the Influence of the French and these Delawares, the Council therefore cannot think it prudent, the Province being in such Circumstances, that these Indians shoud be included within the Cessation of Hostilities, as Sir William Johnson has before this time received from Governor Morris one of the Printed Proclamations and his Letter accompanying it, sent by Mr. Clause, who had the charge of Conducting Scarroyady and his Company to Fort Johnson, and likewise heard the acc^ts^: these Indians woud give of the most miserable Condition of the Back Counties, it is hoped he sees the measure in another light than he did when he wrote his Letter, and will have considered the Reasons for it as set forth by the Governor in that Letter, a copy of which is here inclosed whereby it will appear that when that Declaration was published, the Enemy Indians were greatly encreased in their numbers, and appeared in more formidable Bodies upon every fresh Descent—That the Frontier Counties were near being abandoned. That the Six Nation Indians to a Man who were Parties at the late Treaty thought the measure absolutely necessary, advised it, & assured us it woud be agreeable to the Six Nations and even promised to engage some of their Warriors to assist us against them—that the formality of a Declaration tho' necessary to animate our own People coud make no manner of difference as to the Enemy, Delawares who had been for some time before and then were butchering the Kings Subjects like Beasts, appointed for Slaughter or driving them before them bound with Cords and Naked into a Shameful Captivity, the Council say when these matters come to be considered together with the Restrictions in the Proclamation and the Distinctions between those in Open war, and those who have not joined them no one can with Justice censure the Declaration but impute the Faults where it does in truth lye at the Door of the Delawares for they and they only not the Shawonese, who are included in the Declaration.

The Council—desire further to inform your Excellency that the Governor by their Advice has sent four Indians, two of the Six Nations and two friendly Delawares to Wiomink the Principal place of Residence of the Susquehannah Delawares, to notify to them and the neighbouring Indians the Transactions between the Deputies of the Six Nations and the Chiefs and Warriors of these Susquehannah,

Indians at Otsaningo as Communicated to him by Sir Charles Hardy from Sir William Johnson, and that these messengers had further in Charge to assure those Indians that if the Treaty took full effect and their future actions, corresponded to the Professions made to the Deputies of the Six Nations, they shoud find a ready Disposition in this Government to return to their old Friendship, on their giving up the English Prisoners and acknowledging their Faults.

The Council requests of your Excellency that you will be pleased to make Sir William Johnson acquainted with these matters that they may be properly mentioned at the Treaty at Onandago and if this be done they apprehend no ill consequences can attend the Declaration of war but that it will appear that this Government tho' reduced to the necessity of making it and offering rewards for such, as woud go out against such a Destructive Enemy, has paid a due regard to the Mediation of the Six Nations, and will still do it, nor do the council think that Sir William Johnson shoud blame, but rather justify this step, especially as during the time of the meeting at Otsaningo, the Delawares from the Ohio, were doing their greatest mischief both in this and the neighbouring Provinces, and do still vow not to leave an English Man alive, which shoud stir up these very Susquehannah Indians, in conjunction with the Six Nations to assist us in bringing them to terms of Peace, and to consider this Declaration as made against these implacable and obstinate Enemies and not against any that now are or hereafter may be disposed to hearken to the Six Nations mediating in our favour.

The Council doubts not but the Governor will concur with them in these Sentiments and supply what is wanting of his Authority in this letter, but in the mean time till he can signify this himself, as he is at a Distance they thought it their duty to lay these matters before your Excellency, and request they may be communicated to Sir William Johnson, with all possible dispatch to take off any prejudice that may arise in his mind or with the Indians, on occasion of this Declaration, and least any accident shoud have befallen Mr. Clause, and the Letters sent by him miscarry they further desire you will furnish Sir William Johnson, with one of the Printed Proclations and the Copy of the governors Letter to him, on the 24th April.

I am,
Your Excellency's
most obedient
humble Servant,
RICHARD PETERS, Sec.
By order of the Council.

Indorsed.

Copy of a Letter from Richard Peters, Esqr., Sec., to his Excellency Gen. Shirley.

* Referred to Colon. Rec. VII. on page 117 & 127.

R. Peters to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Honoured Sir,

The Council desires me to Acknowledge your favour of the first Instant, with the Information inclosed of Attempts having been made to persuade the Roman Catholicks of Frederick & York Countys to remove to the Ohio, which they hope & think with you there are no sufficient grounds for.

The Council has approved the proclamation* for a fast, and ordered it to be published in the Gazette, and they flatter themselves it will be perfectly agreeable to you.

The Express return'd yesterday from General Shirley, with a kind letter† from him, ordering 600 Arms, &c., for the use of this Province, and the Necessarys for the Obtaining & Shipping of them at Boston have been done by Mr. Mifflin.

We have had long Councils on the Subject of Sr William Johnson's Extraordinary Letter‡ to General Shirley, & tho' it be justly Exceptionable both in substance, & still yet as the Six Nations Deputies had brought matters to such a Ripeness with the Dellewares, the Councill was unanimously of Opinion to Advise you to publish a Suspension of Arms,§ till the result shall be known of the Conference with the Indians in this great treaty to be held by Colle. Johnson at Onnondagoe, & leave it to you to do it when & in what manner you shall think best for the publick good; they have likewise wrote a Letter to General Shirley, with a request that he would Immediately Dispatch a Messenger to Sr Wm. Johnson with what they had wrote to the General; & if this reaches the hands of Mr. Johnson before he has finished with the Indians, it may do Considerable service, & if not, it cannot do harm. You will receive Coppies of the minutes & Letters, which will give you a full & just notion of the sentiments of the Councill.

People of sence in as well out of trade think an Embargo necessary, and may it not be right in the Governour to put it upon the Assembly by adding a clause in favour of it to your Messuage to them?

Indorsed,

Richard Peters to Govr. Morris, 6th May, 1756.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. VII., p 110; and page 649 this Vol.
† See Col. Rec., Vol. VII., p. 111.
‡ See Col. Rec., Vol. VII., p. 112, 117. § Ib. 144, 192.

Richard Peters to Gov'r. Hardy, 1756.

Philadelphia, 6 May, 1756.

Sir,

The Governor's Absence has put the Council under some difficultys with respect to a Letter they have been obliged to take under their Consideration, sent by Sr Wm. Johnson to General Shirley,* & by him sent to Govr. Morris, in which Sr William complains of the Declaration of War that the Govr. issued against the Delawares, and desires the General's Interposition.

As your Excellency has taken a very kind Part in assisting this Province, which is really in a most distressed Condition, I do myself the Honour to send you under a Flying Seal the Dispatches of the Council to the General, and when you have perused them, Be pleased to send them with all imaginable Dispatch by Express or otherwise as you shall think ye most Speedy way to the General. I hope what has been done will be agreeable to you & meet with your Approbation.

Your Excellency's
Most obedient,
humble Servant.

Indorsed,
Richard Peters to Sr Charles Hardie, 6 May, 1756.

R. Peters to Gov'r. Hardy, 1756.

Philadelphia, 8th May, 1756.

Sir,

The Letter from Governor Dinwiddie,† of which the inclosed is a Copy, was opened by the Council, Governor Morris continuing still in the Frontier Counties, and they have ordered me to send an Express with this important and Malancholy Account of matters, which will serve to shew to the Six Nations that notwithstanding their Interposition the Delawares are not disposed to lay down the Hatchet, but as far and as fast as they can to destroy all his Majesty's Subjects in these Colonies, and to lay all waste before them. In this shocking continuence of a Bloody War, can the Six Nations think it reasonable that there should be a suspension of Hostilities with respect to these Delawares, or can they fulfill their Engagements to his Majesty if they do not approve of the Declaration of

* See Col. Rec., Vol. VII., p. 117. † Ib. p. 133.

this Government and assist the King's Subjects in the War, and that speedily and effectually.

I am ordered further to acquaint your Excellency that 400 Men are very soon to begin their March to Shamokin, in order to build a Fort there for the Reception and Protection of such of the Six Nations and Delawares as will be sent to join against these Cruel Enemies, and to desire your Excellency will be so good to send this Letter and the inclosed Copy of Governor Dinwiddie's Letter to General Shirley, that they may be forwarded to Sir William Johnson with all Possible dispatch, so as to reach him before the Treaty be finished at Onondago.

I am, Sir,
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient,
humble Servant,
RICHARD PETERS, Sec'y.

By order of the Council.

Indorsed,

Copy of a Letter, Richard Peters, Esqr., Secretary, to Sr Charles Hardy, Dated 8th May, 1756.

Petition from Chester County, 1756.

We, the Inhabitants of S^t. Vincent Township, Puke Land, Chester County, here underwritten, having maturely weighed and consider'd the almost Inevitable Dangers to which We are exposed, and thinking it our bounden Duty as Christians and most Loyal Subjects to our most gracious Sovereign Lord, Georg the Second, by the Grace of God, &c.

To Save, if possible, Our Lives, Wives, Children, Liberty, and our most holy Religion from the Hands of our most cruel and Merciless Enemy, who daily approaches Us with hasty Conquering and Murdering Steps, Have, first imploring the Assistance of the Almighty Sovereign, Giver of all Victories, on our Feeble Endeavours, Form'd, and by these presents do form and associate Ourselves into an Independent Company, under the Denomination of the S^t. Vincent and Puke's Land Association, and to be in Subjection to One Captn, One Lieuten^t, and One Ensign, which shall be regularly chose and Voted for by us hereafter.

The tenth Day of May, 1756, We further Assembled, do choose Adam Heylman, Captn, John Hart, Lieuten^t, Adam Roontour, Ensign of the said Company.

As witnesses of Our hands,

John Lewis Ache,
Esaias Charles,
Michel Hylman,
Philip Lewis,
Jacob Defran,
Frederic Swab,
Valentin Henry,
Jacob Mann,
John Ad. Hylman,
Jacob Braun,
Jost. Everhard,
Willm. Henry,
Jacob Gebhard,
John Hylman,
John Hartman,
Jacob Losch,
Michel Conrad,
John Valentin Ernst,
Charles Cramp,
Peter Demler,
Frederick Mack,
Jacob Vine,
Phil. Muntz,
Bathasar Hylman,
John Stein,
Georg Good,
Georg Hearts,
Valentin Vittler,
John Bound,
John Beker,
Jacob Good,
Adam Stone,
Adam Swerner,
Dieterich Room,
Ritchart Brischert,
Ernst Fanstiel,
John Crassert,
Adam McNelly,
John McNelly,
Frederic Hosseus,
Jacob Thomas,
Peter Steiger,
Peter Selle,
Georg Weny,
Adam Moses,
Valentin Smidt,
Georg Nieler,
Michel Roth,
Jacob Corner,
Conrad Sellner,
Simon Sleider,
Peter Sleider,
Jacob Danefels.

Indorsed,

Association Officers in Vincent Township.

Dunk Halifax to Gov. Morris 1756.

Circular.

Grosvenor Square, May the 11th, 1756

Sir,

This Letter will be sent by the Earl of Loudoun, whom His Majesty has appointed Captain General of his Forces in North America; a Post of so high and important a nature, that it might appear a Sort of presumption in me to say any thing of the Character that fills it, if I was not so well acquainted with it. The deference and obedience you owe to His Majesty's appointment will of course dispose you to co-operate in every thing his Lordship shall propose for His Majesty's Service, and therefore I can have nothing to recom-

mend to you on that head; but as a Friend of His Lordships, I must indulge the pleasure of assuring you that His Lordship's natural Disposition and amiable Qualities leave me no room to doubt but that you will have the greatest satisfaction in carrying on the publick Business with him. The Events of the ensuing Campaign, in which the Interest, Honour and Safety of His Majesty's American Dominions are so deeply concerned, are in the hands of Providence; but His Majesty, as far as he has been able to provide for the Success of Arms by the choice of a General, seems to have done it in the appointment of the Earl of Loudoun. A great Empire is to be fought for, and one, in which His Majesty's Subjects, if they exert themselves with the vigour they ought to do, have (I thank God!) a manifest superiority. That their minds may be wholly intent upon the great Business in hand, and in no degree diverted by considerations of a lesser moment from the important object in view, it is the Duty of the Governors of all His Majesty's Provinces (and I earnestly recommend it to you) to use their utmost endeavours in suppressing and preventing any partial Provincial Altercations, Jealousies or Disputes, which may impede and obstruct the just and vigorous measures His Majesty is graciously pleased to pursue in maintenance of his just Rights, the Honour of his Crown, and the Security of his Subjects.

I am, Sir, Your most obedient
and Humble Servant,
DUNK HALIFAX.*

To His Excell^cy Hunter Morris, Esqr.,
Dep^y Governor of Pensylvania.

Indorsed.
Pensylvania Letter, May 11th, 1756. Dunk Halifax, &c.

List of Articles from Bethlehem, 1756.

Bethl^m, May 14th, 1756.

Honourable Gentlemen:

M^r. Horsfield being absent, I have, in the mean while sent you the foll^s by Jac. Ehrenharts Team.

Viz: 26 Guns, pack'd in a Chest,
78 Blankets, Loose,
4 doz. of Powder Horns, D^o.,
1 Cag of Wine,
1 d^o with some D^o.,
1 d^o some Spirits,
1 d^o full of D^o.,
1 d^o with some Vinegar,
3 d^o of Milk Bisquet,

* See Col. Rec., Vol. VII., p. 179, 181.

2 d° of Ginger Bread,
¼ of a Cheese, packed in a Bag of Tobacco,
2 Cheeses d° in a Barrel with Car. Box, and Shoes,
133 Cart Boxes, some in a Bar^l and 1 Bar^l full,
77 Tomahawks, Loose,
1 Cag of Nails,
A Bag of Tobacco, Leaf, } both in one Bag,
1 Roll of Pigtail, }
1 small Bag with some Reasons in the Gin. Bread Cask,
1 Cag of Sundries,
2 Spying Glasses,
21 pair of Shoes, with Cart. Boxes, in a Barrel,
1 whole Cask of Shoes.

The above I have pack'd and got pack'd as good as could be in haste, I hope it may come safe to the design'd Place.

I am,
Honour'd Gentlemen,
Your humble Servt,
THOS. BARTOW, jun^r.

Directed.—To the Honble Commissioners at Harris's Ferry.
Indorsed.
Acco^t of Stores from Northampton County, in Jacob Ernhart's Waggon.

H. Fox to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Whitehall, May 17th, 1756.

Sir:

His Majesty having found it necessary to declare War against the French King, has been pleased, in a Council held this Day at Kensington for that purpose, to sign the inclosed Declaration, and to order that the same should be published to Morrow by the Heralds at Arms, in the usual Places, and with the accustomed Formalities; I am commanded to signify to you the King's Pleasure, that you should cause the said Declaration of War to be proclaimed in the Province under your Government, that His Majesty's Subjects having this Notice may take care to prevent any Mischief, which otherwise they might suffer from the Enemy, and do their Duty in their several Stations, to distress and annoy the Subjects of France; and His Majesty would have you be very rigorous and severe in preventing any Ammunition, or Stores of any kind, from being carried to them, and you are to use all proper Methods that may be most effectual for that purpose.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient
humble servant;
H. FOX.

Govr of Pensylvania.

P. S. His Majesty has been pleased to order Letters of Marque, or Commissions to Privateers to be granted, in the usual manner.

I have received your Letter of Feb^{r}. 23^{d}.*

Indorsed,

Letter Secretary of State to Governor, &c. May 17, 1756.

[Read in Council, at Easton, 30th July, 1756. Declaration was published agreeably thereto. Read in Council, 11th Aug^{t}, 1756, at Philadelphia. Published the next day wth the usual Formalities.]

R. Peters to Gov. Hardy, 1756.

Philadelphia, 20 May, 1756.

Sir,

I am directed by Governor Morris, who is still on the Frontier, to transmit to your Excellency a Copy of the Act passed the 18th Instant, for the more effectual Obstructing the Exportation of Provisions and warlike Stores from the Province of Pennsylvania.

The Embargo took place here thisafternoon, and an Express went imediately to the Lower Counties, with the Governors Warrant to the Collectors there, for an imediate Embargo, and that Assembly is to be called instantly.

I have the Honour to be

Your Excellencys Most obedient

humble servant,

RICHARD PETERS.†

His Excellency Sr Charles Hardie.

Indorsed,

Letter Richard Peters to Sr Charles Hardie, dated 20th May, 1756.

Public Stores in the Hands of James Read at Reading, May 28, 1756.

3 Swivel Guns.
5 Barrs of Lead, w^{tt} 28^{lb} each.
1 Bagg of Bullets.
1 Ditto of Swan Shott.
½ Barrel Powder.
5 Cartouch Boxes, with Belts.
2 Cartouch Boxes, without Belts.

* See p. 268, 269. Colon. Rec. Vol. VII. 26.
† See Colon. Rec Vol. VII., p. 129.

13 Axes without Handles.
2 Barrels of Bread.
108 Pair of Shoes.
95 Pair of Stockings, viz.:

			s.	d.	
25	Pair	@	2	6	a pair.
13	—	@	3	10	—
6	—	@	3	4	—
10	—	@	3	9	—
9	—	@	2		—
7	—	@	3	3	—
9	—	@	2	4	—
16	—	@	2	1	—

There is a small Quantity of Rum in an 8 Gall° Kegg, left by the Men lately posted at Reading under Lieut^t Spearing.

Indorsed.—Report of Public Stores at Reading, May 28, 1756.

Request from Bermuda for Provisions, 1756.

Bermuda alias
Somer Islands.

[L. L.] To the Honourable the Governor of his Majestie's Colonies in North America, and to all other Governors of Charter or proprietary Government in the same, and to all others whom it may concern.

Whereas I have been informed that Acts have lately passed in several of his Majesty's Northern Colonies, Prohibiting the exportation of Flour, Corn, & other kinds of Provisions, And that the same Prohibition extends to all his Majesty's Ports of North America; And whereas there is a Clause in some of the said Acts setting forth that on an Application from his Majesty's Governors of the Southern Plantations & Islands, liberty of Exportation may be allowed for the relief of the said Southern Plantations or Islands; Now Know Ye, that the Owners of the Sloop Experiment of this place, Israel Somersall Master, having applied to me for my Leave to dispatch the said Sloop to some of his Majesty's Colonies for a Supply of such Provisions, as well for the Benefit of themselves as for the other Inhabitants of these his Majesty's Islands, & having enter'd into Security for the delivery of all such Provisions in these Islands, where there is at present a very great Scarcity, I hereby Request his Majesty's Governors & other Officers to permit the said Israel Somarsall to load his said Vessel in any of his Majesty's Colonies with such Provisions as he shall be able to purchase, he the said

Israel Somarsall entering into such further Security as the said Law may require.

Given under my hand and the Publick Seal of these Islands, this Seventh day of June, 1756.

WM. POPPLE.*

By his Excellys Command,
JACOB WRIGHT, Dept Secretary.

Indorsed.

Certificate under the Great Seal, from Gov. Popple of Bermuda. Read in Council 25th June, 1756.

JOHN HARRIS TO EDWARD SHIPPEN, 1756.

Paxton, June 9th, 1756.

Sir:

The second Scout that went out some Days agoe, under James Lowrey, is Returned to our Camp at Robt Armstrong's place, and has brought with him an Indian man and a boy who pretends he Come from Colnl Johnston, I don't know his Intelligence; I expect youl Soon be Informed from ye Camp; our Skout saw abt Ten Indian at McKee's upper place; I likewise hear that the Indian Says he saw a Large number of Inds Near Shamokin, but of this I know not Certain, its Imagined there is Indians plenty between McKee's upper place and Shamokin. I take this opportunity to Inform you of any late news I have heard. I received all the articles sent by you to my Care, and has forwarded the Letters, with all the Articles sent Except the beer, wch Came to hand only last night.

I am, Sir, in Haste,
your most Obedt,
& most Humble Servt,
JOHN HARRIS.

Directed.

To Edward Shippen, Esqr,
In Lancaster.

Indorsed.

June 9, 1756. Harris, that our Scouts had taken two Indians, a man and a boy, that say they are Messengers from Colln Johnson.

* Referred to Col. Rec. Vol. VI., p. 168.

Col. Wm. Clapham to Gov.———, 1756.

Camp at Armstrong's, June 11th., 1756.

Sir:

I do myself the Pleasure to inform your Honor, that on Saturday last, I march'd from McKees Store with Five Companys and Eighteen Battoes & Canoes, loaded and arrivd here the next afternoon; at which Time, I receivd the Favor of your Honors kind Letter. Before I left that Place, I detached Serjeant McCurdy wth Twelve Men, to remain in garrison at Harris's, and receive and stow carefully whatever Provisions, Stores, &c., arrivd. I have also station'd a Party of Twenty Four Men, under the command of Mr. Johnson, at Hunters Fort, with orders to defend that Post and the Neighbourhood, and to escort any Provisions that should come to him up to McKees store. As we could not move with the whole Body, for want of a sufficient number of Battoes to transport the Provisions, Stores, and Tools, I have directed Major Burd to erect Bastions at opposite Corners, and to remain in Camp at McKees Store, till we can remove all the Provisions and Stores up to this Place, and when he decamps, to leave Mr. Attlee to defend the Post, and convey any Battoes that may afterwards be destined for this Place.

The River is now very low, and daily falling insomuch that it was with great Difficulty we got the Battoes through the Shoals and Falls at Juniata-Hill, most of them having grounded, tho' laden with no more than Four Barrels of Pork, and a few light Things; there I was convinced from Experience, that the Battoe Service is what the Soldiers in general are utterly incapable of, and what very few of them have been accustomed to, I shall for this Reason, be obligd to hire a number of men better acquainted with that Branch of Business, and shall want money and Rum for that Purpose. The money you left with me for contingent Charges, I have already paid to these I have hird, as they have Wives and Children to support at Home, which, if they are not paid weekly, will oblige them to quit the Service; the Vouchers for the Payment of that money, I shall send your Honor by the next opportunity, half of the sum being left with Major Burd for that use, who is not yet come up.

As I find this far the most convenient Place on the River, between Harris's and Shamokin, for a Magazine, on account of its good natural Situation, its Situation above the Juniata Falls, the vast Plenty of Pine Timber at Hand, its nearness to Shamokin, and a Saw within a Quarter of a Mile, I have concluded to erect a Fort here, according to the Plan inclosd, and for that Purpose, we have already cutt and squard 200, and hawled to the Spot 80 Logs, each about 30 feet long

and made some Progress in laying them; but as our long Stay here may be attended wth many Inconveniencys, and men may be hird in the Neighbourhood at a reasonable Rate, sufficient, under the Guard of an officer and Thirty Men, to finish the Fort in a Fortnight after the Logs are all hawld, it appears more prudent to do so, than to retard the march of the Troops at this Season; on that account, I perceive we shall be obligd to cross the River about a Mile and a half above this, so that any Place higher up on this side the River would be improper for a Magazine. I have directed Henry to do every Thing with regard to the Pennsylvanian arms, agreeable to your Instructions, and am well pleas'd to hear of the Arrival of the 200 English arms and Blankets at McKees Store, but I observe your Honor has barely calculated the arms for 400 men, whereas, exclusive of that Number in the Regiment, there are the Garrisons at Harris's, Hunters, and McKees, besides the officers and Volunteers who are without arms.

We have now twenty Battoes finished, and two Canoes, which are all busily employ'd in bringing up the Provisions &c.; they have made Five Trips already up to McKees Store, and two to this Place, and are now absent on a third.

Ten of the Ship Carpenters arrivd here yesterday from Harris's, by my order, to which I was induced, by the following Reasons, the want of a proper officer at Harris's to superintend them, and the necessity of M^r^. Erwins Horses, which may supply Logs for the Fort and Timber for them at the same Time. I find Rum to be an article extremely necessary in this Service, have but a small Quantity of it in Store, and am in daily Expectation of a further Supply.

On the 3^d^. and 5th instant, I detached two different Partys of Scouts to reconnoitre Shamokin and the Route thither, and on the Eighth, in the morning, was agreably surprized to see a Canoe coming down the River with a red Flag, on board of which, was an Indian Chief of the Iroquois Nation, and his Son, charg'd with a message and Belt of Wampum from the six Nations, for the Particulars of whose Intelligence, I refer your Honor to the Papers particularly relative to that Subject, and shall only add, that a Cayauga Indian was dispatch'd at the Time, with this Man, butt being deterr'd by the Reports of John Shikalamy and the Fellow who escap'd afterwards from McKees Son, remain'd at Choconotte above Wioming, and left his companion to prosecute the Journey without him.

The courier who brings this was hir'd on Purpose, and detaind by me till the Conference with the Indian was concluded.

Since our comeing here, we have daily the Satisfaction of seeing the People return to their deserted Habitations on the River, and have offered them all the Encouragement and assistance which Humanity and our Duty to the Service requires.

I must here beg Leave to assure your Honor, that no motives shall influence me to deviate from that Regard which I owe to the good

of the Service and your Honors Instructions, and that I am very respectfully,

Your Honors most obedient humble Svt.

WILLM. CLAPHAM.

By the Colonels Command,

T. LLOYD, Aid de Camp.

Description of Fort Lebanon, 1756.

Fort Lebanon, about 24 miles from Gnadenhutten, in the Line to Shamokin.

Fort 100 Foot Square.
Stockades 14 Foot high.
House within built 30 by 20, with a large Store Room.
A Spring within.
A Magazine 12 Foot Square.
On a Barren not much Timber about it.
100 Families protected by it within the new Purchase. No Township.
Built in three weeks. Something considerable given by the neighbours towards it.

Indorsed.

Fort Lebanon.

Gov. Morris to Col. Wm. Clapham, 1756.

Philad^a, 12th June, 1756.

Sir,

Yours of y^r 2^d Ins^t. relating to ye Blankets, Arms, Rum, &c., wch you still complain of wanting, I laid before ye Com^rs, & at ye same time press'd them to lose no time in forwarding them to you, and every thing else y^t you may stand in need of; & also give me their Thoughts upon a Scheme I proposed to them of sending Captn Busse with a Party across the Woods to scour the Country on this side, and Joyn you near Shamokin, but I can get no Answer from them, wch I can only gather from one of their Board, that they think your Corps sufficient wth out any additional Forces, fully to execute ye Design you are upon, and that they have sent you ye rest of ye Blanketts, & every thing else but ye Rum, & that lyes ready for ye first Waggon, but how you are to get it from Harris's, I suppose

* See Colonial Records, Vol. VII., p. 156, for another letter from W. C., of same date.

they will let you know by Comiss^ry Bard, since they did not enable you to take it with you, who I understand is to set off ye beginning of next week.

I must referr you to my Instructions inclos'd for what relates to ye Plan of ye Fort. I send you ye Commissions for Hambright & Trump, and also blank Commissions to supply ye Vacancies, and give you power in every Inst^s to fill them up by advancing ye Ensigns to ye Lieutenancy, always having a due regard to encourage merit, & to make new Ensigns in ye room of those advanced.

I approve much of your gaining ye Post at Armstrongs, & ye other measures you are taking, & shoud not have so long delay'd sending you the Instruc^n if I had not had great Dependence on your Judgm^t & Care in carrying on matters, wch made my Instructions in a great measure needless.

I send you some Copys of ye Articles of War.

As ye Commiss^rs have ordered all ye Arms made here to be sent back, you will have no occasion to take M^r. Henry with you on acco^t of repairing those Arms.

I apply'd to ye Com^rs ab^t *Provender* for ye Horses, but they have given me no answer ab^t it.

By some Intelligence I have rec^d from ye Northw^d, I find ye Susquehannah Indians are much alarm'd at our Scheme of building a Fort at Shamokin, & are jealous y^t we intend by it to secure ye possession of their unpurchased lands there, & are apprehensive y^t y^r regiment is an Army ag^t them, and they have actually sent out ten of their People to be Spies upon you in your March, and to observe your Motions. These Apprehensions of those Indians is owing to some vile rascally Deserters, Irish Roman Catholicks, who are employd by ye French to scatter these and other false Stories amongst them, in order to poison them and bring them intirely over to the French Interest; and perhaps that party of Indians whom your reconoiter party saw at McGees old Place, may be those Spies sent out by ye Indians. But the Indian Messrs I am now sending again amongst them have directions to satisfy them on y^t head.

P. S If you find the Building the Fort in the manner proposed in the Plan wth a Ditch Glacis, coverd way, &c., will be attended wth too much difficulty, you will then build it in another manner.

ROB. H. MORRIS.*

Indorsed.

Dft Letter to Col. Clapham, 12th June, 1756.

* See the answer, June 20, page 671.

Instructions to Col. Clapham, 1756.

Orders & Instructions to Col. Wm. Clapham:

With these Instructions you will Recieve a number of Blank Commissions, under my hand and Seal, for Subaltern officers in your Regiment, which you are hereby empowered to fill up with the names of such men as you Judge most fit for the service, Having regard to the merit and services of those already employd, and taking care that they be of the Protestant religion and well affected to his Majesties Governmt, and you will administer to them the oaths to the Government, as your name is incerted in the General Dedimus for this Province, under the great seal, or cause Major Burd to do it.

2. Herewith you will also recieve two Planns of Forts, the one a Pentagon, the other a Square with one Ravelin to Protect the Curtain where the gate is, with a ditch, coverd way, and Glacis. But as it is impossible to give any explicit directions, the Particular form of a fort, without viewing and Considering the ground on which it is to stand, I must leave it to you to build it in such form as will best answer for its own Defence, the command of the river and of the Country in its neighbourhood, and the Plans herewith will serve to shew the Proportion that the Different parts of the works should bear to Each other.

3. As to the place upon which this fort is to be erected, that must be in a great measure left to your Judgment; but it is necessary to inform you that it must be on the East side of the Susquehana, the Lands on the West at ye forks & between the branches not being Purchasd from the Indians, besides which it would be impossible to relieve and support a garrison on that side in the winter time. From all the Information I have been able to Collect, the Land on ye south side of the east branch, opposite the middle of the Island, is the highest of any of the low land thereabout, and the best place for a fort, as the Guns you have will form a Rampart of a moderate highth, command the main river; but as these Informations come from persons not acquainted with the nature of such things, I am fearfull they are not much to be depended on, and your own Judgment must therefore direct you.

4. When you have completed the fort you will cause the ground to be cleard about it, so to a convenient distance and openings to be made to the river, and you will Erect such buildings within the fort and place them in such a manner as you shall Judge best.

5. Without the fort, at a convenient distance, under the command of the Guns, it will be necessary to build some log houses for Indians, that they may have places to Lodge in without being in the fort where numbers of them, however friendly, should not be admitted but in a formal manner, and the guard turned out, this will be esteemed a compliment by our friends, and if enemies should at

any time be concealed under that name, it will give them proper notions of our vigilence and prevent them from attempting to surprise it.

6. In your march up the River you will take care not to be surprised, and always have your forces in such a disposition that you may retreat with safety.

7. You will make the best observations you can of the river, and the most difficult passes you meet with in your way, as well by land as by water, which you will note upon the map I gave, that it may be thereby amended, and furnish me with your opinion of the best manner of removing or surmounting those difficulties.

8. If you should be opposed in your march, or gain any intelligence of the aproach of an enemy for that or any other purpose, you will inform me by express of such intelligence or opposition, the situation you are in, and every thing else material, that I may send you proper assistance, and be prepared for any thing that may Happen, and in the mean time you are to use your best endeavours to oppose the Enemy & to secure yourself.

9. As soon as you are in Possession of the Ground at Shamokin, you will secure your self by a breast work in the best manner you can, so that your men may work in safety, and you will inform me of your arrival there, and let me know what you will have occasion for that I may apply to the Commissioners to supply it.

10. You will order the Commissary, and others into whose hands you may trust any of the Publick Provisions or Stores to be careful and exact in the distribution thereof, and to keep exact accounts of every thing committed to their care.

11. Having suspended Hostilities against the Delaware Indians on the East side of the North East Branch of Sasquahana, in order to enter into a treaty with them, I send you herewith my Proclamation for that purpose, to which you will conform, and any friendly Indians that may Joyn you in your march or at Shamokin you will treat with kindness, and supply them out of the Province Stores with such things as they may want, and you are able to spare.

12 Having sent the Indians, New Castle and Jagrea, again to the town of Diahoga, accompanied with some of the Jersey Delawares, all our good friends, who may and probably will return by the Sasquahana, you will, in about a fortnight after this cause a look out to be kept for them, and if they return that way you will recieve & assist them in their journey. Their Signal will be a red flag with the union in the corner, or if that should be lost they will carry green Boughs or clubd Muskets, will appear open and Erect, and not approach you in the night.

Given under my Hand & Seal at Arms, at Philad^{a}, this 12th day of June, 1756.

Indorsed.

Dft Col. Clapham's Orders, 12th June, 1756.

Wm. Edmonds to R. Peters, 1756.

Beth^{m}, June 14th, 1756.

M^{r}. Peters,

Sir:

Both your Letters are come safe to hand, M^{r}. Spangenberg not being home, those appointed for transacting affaires in his absence, opened your Letters, and Consulted together about the Indians who are kindly Rec^{d}, and all things necessary, as far as we can, Provided for them, which We shall continue to Do. If it shall be thought needfull I will go with them to Gnadenhutten, when the Jersey Indians come here to them; We shall soon forward them up, Which with hearty Respects in behalf of M^{r}. Spangenberg and others Desire, Who are here, is all at present from Sir,

Your Humble Ser^{vt}.

WM. EDMONDS.

P. S. The inclosd is a Copy, in effect, of Letters I sent to M^{r}. Craig, to forts Norris, Hamilton & Franklin, & also something of it to M^{r}. Parsons.*

Directed.

To Richard Peters, Esqr., in Philadelphia.

Indorsed.

W^{m}. Edmonds, 14 June, 1756.

Col. Clapham to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Camp at Armstrong's, June 15th, 1756.

Sir:

On Sunday, 13th instant, I received your Honor's Proclamation enjoining a Cessation of Hostilitys for 30 Days, and shall as far as my judgment extends pay all due Deference to it, but it not being accompany'd with a single Line of Instructions am most at a Loss how to proceed, not being able to determine whether only Marching into that Country may or may not be deem'd an Act of Hostility, must, in order to Acquit myself, leave the Decision of that matter to the Opinion of a Council of War. I am the more uneasy as the Fort is now in a Condition to be left, the River daily falling, and this, perhaps, the only opportunity this Season may afford of a Water Carriage to Shamokin.

Having receiv'd a Letter from the Commissioners I have transmitted to them Copys of what I wrote to your Honour, excepting

* See Colon. Rec. Vol. VII, p. 163, 165.

your Honor's private Letter. Inclos'd is an Exact Copy of what Intelligence is communicated to me by Ogaghadarirah,* the Indian Messenger now at the Camp, a Copy of which I have also Inclos'd the Commissioners. I wait the return of the Courier with the utmost Impatience, and am, Sir,

with all Respect,

Your Honor's most obed^t

humble Servant,

WILLM. CLAPHAM.

Indorsed.

15 June, 1756. Col^l Clapham.

COPY WM. PARSONS TO WM. EDMONDS, 1756.

Easton, June 15th, 1756.

Dear Sir:

Your two Letters are come safe to Hand. That of Yesterday by Mr. James Ennis & Thomas Aply I am now particularly to answer. As soon as I rec^d that Letter I wrote a Letter & directed it to Coll^o John Anderson, Esqr., & all other His Majesty's Justices & other Officers, desiring them to forward Mr. Ennis & Aply in their Journey to Paulin's Kill, and to do every thing in their power to divert the Scalping Party from going out (if they were not already gone) until the Time limited in the Governor's Proclamation of the third Instant was expired, which Letter I gave them open.

This Afternoon Mr. Ennis return'd to this place, and tells me that this Morning about 18 or 20 Miles from hence they met with Jonathan Hamton, Esqr, Commissary General of the Jerseys, & Doctor Hart, who inform'd them that 4 Officers, with 25 Men each, set out last Saturday from Paulin's Kill towards the Great Swamp in quest of the Indians, but it is supposed that their Design is rather to bring off such Cattle and Effects as they may find with the Enemy than to Scalp them. It is said these parties took 10 Day's Provision with them. It would have been most agreeable to me to have come to Bethl^m & conferred with Mr. Horsfield & you upon this Subject, but as I have been from home of late I can't spare the Time, And shall therefore only give you my sentiments & leave it to you and Mr. Horsfield to do as you shall see best.

It seems to me improper to let the Indians go while these Parties are out, least they should fall into their Hands, which would prove fatal not only to the present, but to future Overtures of Peace, as the Indians would then have Reason to suspect the people of this Province.

* See Col. Rec. Vol. VII., p. 171.

And I am of Opinion that Mr. James or Mr. Ennis, or both, as you think fit, should go immediately Express to Philad^a & inform the Governor of the Situation of Affairs, and that the Indians remain at Bethl^m & no where else till his Honour's further pleasure is known. If this prove agreeable to your own sentiments I beg you will put it in Execution with what speed you can, but if Mr. Horsfield & you be of a another mind pray act according to your own Sentiments, & with speed. Give my Compliments to Mr. Horsfield, the Messenger is in so much hurry that I have not time to write to him.

I am,

Signed, WM. PARSONS.

To Wm. Edmonds,
at Bethl^m.

Indorsed.

Indians. Sune 15th, 1756. Wm. Parsons.

Written on the back,

"The Indians, Especially the Capt., Desired me to send the Bearer of this to Your Honour, he being a faithfull Man; his name is Thos Innis."

Col. Clapham to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Camp at Armstrong's, June 20th, 1756.

Sir,

I receiv'd your Honour's of the 12th instant, together with your Honor's Instructions,* your Honor's answer to the Indian Sachem, six blank Commissions and two Planns of Fortification. Your Instructions I shall obey with the utmost Pleasure and Punctuality. Your answer I delivered with due solemnity; in filling up the Commissions I shall be particularly careful to regard your Honor's Directions; when arriv'd at the Ground I shall conform as near as possible to the Plans, and hope I shall find no Difficulty in the Execution which Industry and application may not surmount and shall rely on your Honor for the Supplys necessary during that Time. The Progress already made in this Fort renders it Impracticable for me to comply with the Commissioners Desire to contract it, at which I am the more surprized, as I expected every Day Orders to enlarge it, it being as yet in my opinion much too small. I shall leave an officer and thirty men, with Orders to finish it when I march from hence, which will be with all possible Expedition, after the arrival of the Blanketts, the Rum and the Money for Payment of the Battoe-men, for want

* See Col. Rec. Vol. VII., p. 163. * See page 665.

of which I am oblig'd to detain them here in Idleness, not thinking it prudent to trust them on another Trip for Fear of their Desertion, which may totally impede the Service. I could wish the Commissioners would invent some Expedient to pay those men without Money, or at least without the Danger of trusting me with their Money, the charge of which I am not ambitious off, or the much envy'd Honor and Trouble of expending it. This far, Sir, is certain, that without such Expedient or the Money we cannot stir.

I have, pursuant to your Honor's Command, sent down the Indian Sachem properly escorted, and committed particularly to the Care of Mr. Shippen, and hope his coming will fully answer the Ends propos'd by your Honor and your Council. I have found Captain McKee extremely usefull and have sent him also at the Sachems particular Request. The Carpenters are still employ'd in building Battoes, and Carriages for the Canons, and every Body seems disposed chearfully to contribute their Services towards the publick Good, if there was ever any Prospect or Assurance of being paid for it. From your Honor's character of Capt Busse I am extremely sorry the Commissioners have not thought proper to comply with your Honor's Proposal. I assure myself your Honor will omit no opportunity of extricating me from the Embarrassment arising from the want of Money, both for the Battoe-men and the Soldiers, twenty-six of which being Dutch are now in Confinement for Mutiny on that very Accountt.

I am, with all Respect,
Your Honor's most obedient humble Servt,
WILL'M CLAPHAM.

P. S. The Fort at this Place is without a Name till your Honor is pleas'd to confer one.*

Indorsed.

20 June, 1756. Coll. Clapham.

Copy, Gov. Morris to Col. Clapham, 1756.

June 21st, 1756, Philadª.

Sir,

I this minute returned from Amboy and found your favour of ye 15th Instant with the Indian Messenger's Intelligence, for which I am obliged to you. All your Doubts about the force and Effect of my Proclamation will be removed when you receive my letters by the return of your Express, who left this on Tuesday last. I should have sent you a hundred pounds by him, But Mr. Bard the Commissary gave me Assurances that he was to go the next day, and I thought the money would be safer with him, and was

* Fort Halifax, see Gov's. letter, page 674.

therefore surprised to find him here with the money at my return, and Enquiring the Cause, was Informed the Commissioners had detained him for some business, and after that for my Instructions, tho' they were contained in his commission to do the Duty of Commissary of the stores & provisions, this has prevented your receiving all the money I have in my hands, but I hope it will be in time to answer the publick service. I do not find by Mr. Bard that the Commissrs have sent any more new arms which I recommended to them to do, and you will therefore retain so many of the best of the Philada. make as you will want for your men and officers; two hogshead of Rum are already sent up to you which Mr. Bard tells me is all the Commissioners have order'd at present, but I hope they will soon send you a larger supply, both of money and rum, but I know not what they Intend as to these articles. I laid your letters before the Commissioners, and shall communicate all that I receive from you of a publick nature, so that you may save yourself the trouble of transmitting duplicates.

Indorsed,

Draft to Coll. Clapham, by Commissary Bard with a hundred pounds, 21st June, 1756.

Gov. S. Hopkins to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Providence, June 22, 1756.

Sir,

As the Sea port Towns in the Colony of Rhode Island have for all Time past depended on the Wheat Colonies to the Southward for their Flour, And altho' the present Situation of public Affairs makes it necessary for the Legislative Powers in all the English Colonies to prohibit the Exportation of Provisions in such Manner, that they might possibly come into the Hands of our Common Enemies; Yet I apprehend it could not be the Intent of those restraining Acts altogether to prevent any one Colony from receiving Such Articles from any of the Neighbouring ones, as have always been accustomed, and are absolutely necessary for the Preservation of its Inhabitants, Such a Conduct would rather tend to distress the King's good Subjects than His Enemies; And as I cause all Masters of Vessels who receive Letters from Me for this Purpose, to enter into Bond, that they shall Land all the Flour they are permitted to take on Board their Vessels in Consequence of such Letters in this Colony, and dispose of it therein to the Householders, not more than two Barrels to any one Person, (except a Baker) and return Certificates from every Person to whom they

have sold their Flour, before their Bonds shall be cancelled. I must therefore desire Your Honour to permit Joseph Arnold, Master of the Sloop Industry, to purchase and bring into this Colony such a Quantity of Flour as You may think expedient, thereby drawing on yourself the gratefull Acknowledgments of the people of a whole Colony, And in particular of

Your most Obedient and
Most Humble Servant,
STEP. HOPKINS.

The Hono'ble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr.

Indorsed,
22 June, 1756, Govr. Hopkins.

Gov. Morris to Col. Clapham, 1756.

Ph^a. 25th June, 1756.

Sir:

The Comiss^rs some time ago sent you Two Hdds. of Rum, & have since sent you 10 Barrels more—& they have also sent 500 w^t of Lead, wch is to remain at Harris's Ferry for your use; if you shall have occasion for it.

Comissary Young is gone to muster some of ye Forces on ye Northern Frontier, but is daily expected back to town, & on his return I shall immediately Dispatch him wth ye cash to muster & pay your Regimen^ts before he goes to muster ye Forces on ye West side of Susquehanna, wch I hope will pacify your People who I hear begin to clamour very much for want of their Pay, The Comiss^rs propose making a Stoppage of half of their pay till their regimentals are paid for.

Since writing ye above, Captn McKee, delivered me yours of ye 20th Inst.

I doubt you will find it too tedious & expensive to execute my Plan of Fort Augusta intirely, I mean wth all ye Outworks, but leave it to your Discretion to do as much of it as you shall judge necessary & practicable. I am glad to hear you are in such forwardness wth ye Fort at Armstrongs; I would have it call'd Fort Halifax. I sent you by Comiss^ry Bard, £100 on account of ye incidental charges of ye Exped^n, on ye 14th Inst., expecting he would have immediately set out for your Camp, but it seems he did not leave ye Town till a few days ago. When you receive yt Money I hope as ye Rum & Blankets are all sent you, you will then have

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. VII., p. 183, 187.

nothing to retard you March, & y^t I shall very soon hear of your being safe arrived at Shamokin.

The Comiss^rs desire you will dismiss ye Carpenters as soon as they have finished ye Carriages for ye Cannons.

As the Season is far advanced and the Success of the future operations of this Summer, will greatly depend on your being at Shamokin as soon as possible, you will therefore lose no time in leaving your present camp, and in gaining a Lodgment at Shamokin, which being done you may bring up your Provisions & stores afterwards.

Indorsed.

Dft. letter to Col. Clapham.

A Journal from Reading to the Sundry Forts and Garrisons along the Northern Frontiers of this Province.

To the Honble. Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Governor and Commander in Chief of Pennsilvania.

Reading, 19th June.—At 11 a Clock in the Morning I came to Reading, I sent an Express to Lieu^t. Coll. Weiser, to acquaint him with my intended Journey to the Northern Frontier, that I inclined to muster the Comp^y. Posted here, and that I should want some Men to Escort me to the Next Fort.—Ammunition at Reading, Vizt. 25 G^d. Muskets, 25 Do Wants Repair, 11 Broken Do, 9 Cartooch Boxes, 240 lb. Powder, 600 lb Lead.

At 6, P. M., Coll. Weiser came here, I Muster'd his Comp^y. that are Posted for a Guard to this Place. They Consist of 30 Men, Vizt. 2 Serjants, and 28 Private Soldier, 2 of them were absent at Coll. Weisers house.

Fort at North Kill, 20th. June.—At 2, P. M., I sett out from Reading, Escorted by 5 Men of the town, on horseback, for the Fort at North Kill; at ½ past 6, we came to the Fort, it is Ab^t. 19 miles from Reading, the Road very hilly and thick of Wood; the Fort is ab^t. 9 miles to the Westw^d. of Scuylkyll, and Stand in a very thick Wood, on a small Rising Ground, half a mile from the middle Northkill Creek; it is intended for a square ab^t. 32 f^t. Each way, at Each Corner is a half Bastion, of very little Service to Flank the Curtains, the Stoccades are very ill fixed in the Ground, and open in many Places; within is a very bad Logg house for the People, it has no Chimney, and can afford but little shelter in bad Weather; when I came here, the Serjant, who is Commander, was absent and gone to the next Plantation, half a mile off, but soon came, when he had intelligence I was there; he told me he had 14 men Posted with him, all Detatchd from Capt. Morgans Comp^y., at Fort Lebanon, 5 of them

were Absent by his leave, Vizt. two he had let go to Reading for three days, one he had let go to his Own house, 10 mile off, and two more this afternoon, a few mile from the Fort, on their own business; there was but Eight men and the Serjant on Duty. I am of opinion there ought to be a Commission'd Officer here, as the Serjant does not do his Duty, nor are the men under proper Command for want of a More Superior Officer; the Woods are not Clear'd above 40 Yards from the Fort; I gave orders to Cut all down for 200 y^{ds}; I inquir'd the reason there was so little Powder & Lead here, the Serjant told me he had repeatedly requested more of Capt. Morgan, but to no purpose. Provisions here, Flower and Rum, for 4 Weeks; M^{r}. Selly of Reading, sends the Officer money to Purchase meal as they Want it.—Provincial Arms & Amun^{tn}. at North Kill Fort, vizt. 8 G^{d}. Muskets, 4 Rounds of Powder & Lead, p^{r}. man, 15 Blankets, 3 Axes.

21st. June.—At 8 a Clock, A. M., Capt. Busse, from Fort Henry, Came here with 8 men on horse Back, he Expected to meet Coll. Weiser here, in order to Proceed to the Several Forts on the Northern Frontier, but Coll. Weiser wrote him that other Business Prevented him, and desired Capt. Busse to proceed with me, and return him an Acc^{t} how he fouud the Forts, with the quantity of Ammunition and Stores in Each, of which I was very Glad, as the Escort on horse back would Expediate our Journey very much, and be much safer.

Accordingly, we sett out for Fort Lebanon; all the way from North kill to Lebanon, is an Exceeding bad road, very Stony and mountanus. About 6 miles from North kill, we Crossed the North Mountain, where we met Capt. Morgans Leiu^{t}. with 10 men, Ranging the Woods between the Mountain and Fort Leb^{n}.; we past by two Plantations, the Rest of the Country is Cheifly Barren Hills, at noon we came to Fort Lebanon, which is Situated in a Plain, on one side is a Plantation, on the other a Barren, Pretty Clear of Woods all round, only a few trees about 50 yards from the Fort, which I desired might be cut down. This Fort is a square of ab^{t} 100 f^{t},. well staceaded with good Bastions, on one of which is a Good Wall Piece, within is a good Guard house for the People, and two other Large houses built by the Country people who have taken refuge here, in all 6 Families. The Fort is a little too much Crowded on that acc^{t}; I acquainted Capt. Morgan that the Serjant at North kill did not do his Duty, and I believ'd it would be for the good of the service, to have a Com'^{d}. Officer there, on which he orderd his Leiu^{t}., with two more Men to go and take post there, and sent with him 4 lb^{s} Powder & 10 lb. Lead.—Provincial Arms & Ammun'^{tn}: 28 G^{d}. Muskets, 10 Wanting Repair, 9 Rounds of Powder & Lead, 4 lb. Powder, 24 lb. Lead, 30 Cartooch boxes, 40 Blankets, 1 Axe, 1 Wall Piece.

By Capt. Morgans Journal, it appears, he sends a Party to Range the Woods 4 or 5 times a week, and Guard the Inhabitants at their Labor. At 1 P. M. I muster'd the People and Examined the Certifi-

cates of Inlistments which appear in the Muster Roll, after which I order'd the men to fire at a Mark, 15 of 28 hit within 2 foot of the Center, at the Distance of 80 yards. Provisions here: Flower and Rum for a Month; the Commissary sends them money to Purchase meal as they want it.

Fort above Alleminga.—At ½ past 3 P. M. we sett out with the former Escort & 2 of Capt. Morgans Compy, for the Fort above Alleminga, Commanded by Leiut. Ingle: at ½ past 7 we got there; it is Abt. 19 miles N. E. from Fort Lebanon, the Road a Narrow Path very Hilly and Swampy; abt half way we came thro' a very thick and dangerous Pine Swamp; very few Plantations on this Road, most of them Deserted, and the houses burnt down; ½ a mile to the Westward of this Fort is good Plantation, the people retires to the Fort every Night. This Fort stands abt. a mile from the North Mountain; only two Plantations near it. This Fort is a square abt. 40 foot, very ill staccaded, with 2 Logg houses at Opposite Corners for Bastions, all very unfit for Defence; the Staccades are very open in many Places, it stands on the Bank of a Creek, the Woods Clear for 120 yards; the Leiut. Ranges towards Fort Lebanon and Fort Allen, abt. 4 times a Week; much Thunder, Lightning, and Rain all Night.—Provincial Stores: 28 Gd. Muskets, 8 Wants Repair, 16 Cartooch Boxes, 8 lb. Powder, 24 lb. Lead, & 12 Rounds for 36 Men, 36 Blankets, 1 Axe, 1 Adse, 1 Augre, 2 Plains, 1 Hammer, 2 Shovels, 9 Small Tin Kettles.

June 22d.—At 6 A. M. I orderd the People to fire at a mark; not above 4 in 25 hit the tree at the Distance of 85 yards; at 7, Musterd them, found 25 Present, 2 Sick, 2 Absent on Furlough, 2 Sent to Reading with a Prisoner, and 5 at Fort Allen on Duty. Provisions, One Cask of Beef Exceeding bad, Flower and Rum for 3 Weeks.

Fort Allen.—At 8 A. M. We sett out for Fort Allen, at Gnadenhutten;* it is abt. 15 miles from Alleminga; the first 7 miles of this Road is very hilly, Barran, and Swampy, no Plantations; the other part of the Road is, for the most part, thro' a Rich Valley, Chiefly meadow Ground. Several Settlements, but all the houses Burnt and deserted;† at Noon we came to the Fort; for the last half hour before we came here, had a very severe Gust of Thunder, Lightning, and Prodigious heavy Rain.

This Fort stands on the River Leahy, in the Pass, thro' Very high hills, &, in my Opinion, in a very important Place, and may be of Great Service, if the Officer does his Duty. It is very well Staccaded with four Good Bastions, on one is a Sweivle Gun; the Woods are Clear all round it for a Considerable way, and is very Defencable; within is three good Barracks and a Guard Room; I found here 15 men without any Officer or Commander; they told me that Leiut. Jacob

* See Colon. Rec. Vol. VII. pp. 15, 16, for a description of this Fort by B. Franklin, also a plan of it. † See Vol. VI., p. 772.

Meis and two men from the Fort was gone this morning [22d June,] with two Gentlemen from Bethlehem, and four Indians, 15 miles up the Country to bring down some friendly Indians, and that the Serjant with 3 men were gone to Captn Foulks, late Commander here to receive the Pay that was due to them, and one was gone to Bethlehem with the Serjants Watch to Mend, which was the Reason I could not muster those Present, nor have any acct of the Provisions, but saw a large Quantity of Beef very ill Cured. I was inform'd that a Captn with a New Compy was Expected there in a Day or two to take Post at this, Fort, being Very uncertain when the Leiunt would return, or the New Compy Come, I resolved to Proceed to Leahy Gapp, where a Detachment of a Compy is Posted.—27 Muskets, 50 Cartooch Boxes, 10lb. Powder, 60 lb. Lead, and 20 Rounds filled for 25 Men, 19 Axes, 4 broad Do., 26 Hatchets, 43 Tamhauks, 3 Iron Wages, 1 Sweivle Gun.

Leahy Gapp, North Side.—At 4 P. M. Sett out, at 6, Came to Leahy Gapp where I found a Serjant and 8 men Stationed at a Farm house with a small Staccade Round it, from Fort Allen here the Road is very hilly and Swampy, only one Plantation abt a mile from the Gapp, I found the People here were a Detachment from Captn Weatherholts Compy, he is Station'd on the other side the Gapp, 3 miles from this with 12 men, the rest of his Compy are at Depues, and another Gapp 15 miles from this, I dispatch'd a messenger to Captn Weatherholt, desiring him to Come here in the morning with the men under his Comd, to be muster'd, the People Stationed here and on the other side the Gapp I think may be of great service, as it is a good road thro' the mountain and very steep and high on each side, so may in a great measure prevent any Indians to pass thro' undiscovered if they keep a good guard, here the River Leahy Passes thro' the mountain in a very Rapid Stream.

23 June, Leahy Gapp, North Side.—At 7 in the morning, I mustered the men here, the Serjant inform'd me that Captn Weatherholt was gone 12 miles from this and he believ'd on his way to Philada for there pay which was the reason the people did not come here, and I finding this Compy so much dispers'd at different Stations in small parties, I could not regularly Muster them therefor at 8 A. M. I sett out for Fort Noris, the Road for the first 6 miles a good Waggon Road allong the foot of the North Mountain, the other 7 miles very hilly and Stony, past three Plantations on this Road, all Deserted & the houses Burnt down.

Fort Norris.—At 11 A. M. Came to Fort Noris, found here a Serjant Commanding with 21 men, he told me the Ensign with 12 men was gone out this morning to Range the Woods towards Fort Allen, the Captn was at Philade since the 16th, for the peoples pay, and the other Serjant was absent at Easton, on Furlough Since the 20th. This Fort Stands in a Valley abt mid way between the North mountain, and the Tuscorory 6 miles from Each on the high Road towards the Minisink, it is a Square abt 80 ft. Each way with 4 half Bastions

all very Compleatly Staccaded, and finished and very Defenceable the Woods are Clear 400 yds Round it, on the Bastions are two Sweevle Guns mount'd, within is a good Barrack, a Guard Room, Store Room, and Kitchin also a Good Well.—Provincial Stores, 13 gd Muskets, 3 burst Do. 16 very bad Do. 32 Cartooch boxes, 100 lb. Powder, 300 lb. Lead, 112 Blankets, 39 Axes, 3 Broad Do. 80 Tamhacks, 6 Shovels, 2 Grub Hoes, 5 Spades, 5 Drawing knives, 9 Chisels, 3 Adses, 3 Hand Saws, 2 Augers, 2 Spliting Knives.

At 1 P. M. the Ensign with 12 men returned from Ranging, they had seen nothing of any Indians. I mustered the whole 34 in Number Stout able men, the Ensn has no Certificates of inlistments, the arms Loaded and clean, the Cartootch Boxes filled with 12 Rounds pr man, Provisions at Fort Noris, a Large Quantity of Beef Very ill Cured Standing in Tubs, a Quantity of Biscut and flower, & ab^t 50 Gallons Rum.

23 June, Fort Noris.—At 2 P. M. Capn Weatherholt came here to us, he had been on his way to Phila, but the Messenger I sent last night overtook him 8 miles from his Station, he brought me his muster Roll of his Whole Compy, and Certificates of Inlistments, and proposed to go with me to Saml Depues, where his Lieut and 26 men are Stationed, to see them Muster'd, I accepted of his Company. At 3 P. M. we sett out from Fort Noris on our Way to Fort Hamilton. At 6 P. M. we came to Philip Bosarts a Farmer, 12 Miles from Fort Noris, here we Stayed all Night, in our way to this house the road very hilly and Barran, past by three Plantations Deserted and the houses Burnt down, in Bosarts house are 6 Families from other Plantations.

24 June, Fort Hamilton.—At 4 A. M. sett out from Bosarts, at 6 Came to Fort Hamilton at ab^t 7 miles from Bosarts, a Good Waggon road, and the Land better than any I had seen on the No side the Mountain. Fort Hamilton stands in a Corn field by a Farm house in a Plain and Clear Country, it is a Square with 4 half Bastions all Very ill Contriv'd and finish'd the Staccades open 6 inches in many Places, and not firm in the ground, and may be easily pull'd down, before the gate are some Staccades drove in the Ground to Cover it which I think might be a great Shelter to an Enemy, I therefore order'd to pull them down, I also order'd to fill up the other Staccades where open.—Provincial Stores. 1 Wall Piece, 14 Gd Muskets, 4 Wants Repair, 16 Cartootch boxes, filled with Powder and Lead, 28 lb Powder, 30 lb. Lead, 10 Axes, 1 Broad Axe, 26 Tomhaukes, 28 Blankets, 3 Drawing knives, 3 Spliting knives, 2 Adses, 2 Saws, 1 Brass Kettle.

I found here a Lieut and Eight men, 7 were gone to Easton with a Prisoner Deserter from Gen. Shirleys Regt.

Fort 10 miles above Depues, Commonly call'd Hyndshaw Fort.—At 8 A. M. I sett out from Fort Hamilton, for Saml Depues where Capn Weatherholts Lieut and 26 men are Stationed, when I came there his Muster Roll was not ready, I therefor proceeded to the next

Fort 10 miles higher up the River, at 1 P. M. Came there, it is a good Plain Road from Depues, many Plantations this way, but all Deserted, and the houses Chiefly Burnt, Found at this Fort Lieu^{t}. Ja^{s}. Hyndshaw wth 25 men, he told me the Cap^{tn} with 5 men was gone up the River yesterday, and did not Expect him back these two days, they had been informed from the Jerseys that 6 Indians had been seen, and fired at the night before 18 miles up the River. —Provincial Stores, 11 Good Muskets, 14 Rounds of Powder & Lead for 30 men, 4 lb. Powder, 30 Blankets.

This Fort is a Square ab^{t} 70 f^{t} Each way, very Slightly Staccaded, I gave some directions to alter the Bastions which at present are of very little use, it is Clear all round for 300 yards, and stand on the Banks of a Large Creek, and ab^{t} ¼ mile from the River Delaware, and I think in a very important Place for the Defence of this Frontier; at 3 P. M. I muster'd the people, and find them agreeable to the Lieu^{ts} Roll, Regularly inlisted. Finding here such a small Quantity of Powder and Lead, and this Fort the most Distant Frontier. I wrote a Letter to Cap^{tn} Arrend, at Fort Noris, where there is a Large Quantity desiring he would deliver to this Fort 30 lb. Powder, and 90 lb. Lead, and I promised he should have proper orders from his Supperior Officer, for so doing, in the mean time my letter should be his Security, in which I hope I have not done amiss as I thought it very necessary for the Good of this Service.

24 June.—At 7 P. M. Came to Saml. Depues, Mustered that Part of Cap^{tn} Weatherholts Comp^{y} that are Stationed here, a Lieu^{t} and 26 men all regularly Inlisted for 6 months as are the rest of his Comp^{y}; Round Depues house, is a Large but very Slight, and ill Contriv'd Staccade with a Sweevle Gun mounted on Each Corner. M^{r}. Depue was not at home, his Son with a Son of M^{r}. Broadheads keeping house. They express'd themselves as if they thought the Province was oblig'd to them for allowing this Party to be in their house, allso made use of very arrogant Expressions of the Commissioners, and the People of Phil^{a} in General, they seem to make a mere Merchandize of the People Stationed here, selling Rum at 8d p^{r} Gill.—Provincial Stores, 13 G^{d} Muskets, 3 Cartootch Boxes, 13 lb. Powder, 22 lb. Lead.

25 June.—At 5 A. M. sett out from Depues for the Wind Gapp, where part of Cap. Weatherholts Comp^{y} is Stationed, stopt at Bosarts Plantation to feed our horses, was inform'd that this morning 2 miles from the house in the Woods they had found the Body of Peter Hiss, who had been murdered and Scalped ab^{t} the month of Feby at 11 A. M. Came to the Wind Gapp, where I found Cap^{n}. Weatherholts Ensign, who is Station'd here with 7 men at a Farm house, 4 only were present, one was gone to Bethlehem with a Letter from the Jerseys on Indian affairs, one was at a Farm house on Duty, and one absent on Furlough from the 15th to the 22^{d}, but not yet returned, I told the Officer he ought to Esteem him a Deserter as did, found here 6 Provincial Muskets, all good, and 6 Rounds of

Powder and Lead for Each, I told Captn Weatherholt to send a supply as soon as Possible.

At 3 P. M. Sett out from the Wind Gapp for Easton, ab^t half way past by Nazareth Mill Round which is a Large but Slight Staccade ab^t 400 f^t. one way, and 250 the other, with Logg houses at the Corners for Bastions, at 6 Came to Easton, found here Ensign Enslee of Cap^tn Enslees Comp^y with 24 men, he told me the Cap^tn was gone to Phil^a for the Comp^ys Pay, and one man absent sick at Bethlehem. —Provincial Stores, 25 G^d Muskets, 25 Cartootch Boxes, with 11 Rounds in Each, 15 Blankets.

26 June.—At 9 A. M. muster'd the Comp^y Stationed here, found them Stout able men, their arms in Good Order, they fired at a Mark, 16 of 20 hit within 9 Inches of the Centre at 80 Yards Dis^te. The Ensign had no Certificates of Inlistments, but told me that Coll^l. Clapham had Carried them with him.—In Major Parsons Charge for the use of the Inhabitants. 37 Bad Muskets, a Parcel of Broken Muskets, 24 Cart^c Boxes, 12 Pr Shoes, 56 lb. Powder, 100 lb. Lead, 14 Blankets, 10 Axes, 1 Broad Do., 7 Hatchets.

27th, At Bethlehem.

Philadelphia, July 2^d, 1756.

JAS. YOUNG.*
Comiss^y Genl of ye Musters.

Indorsed.

Commiss^y Young's Journal from Reading, to Sundry Forts in Berks & North^rn Counties.

William Edmonds to Gov. Morris, 1756.

26 June, 1756.

May it Please Your Honour:

Jagrea is Disatisfy'd & will not stay any longer. I know of no Reason but the circumstances as they are occurred are these, Yesterday 4 of the Indians took a ride out, & Mr. Thos. Aply went to Escort them, & about Sun set Jagrea came to their apartment in the House where I live, & to my great Surprize, began to Pack up his things. I got him a long pipe, & one of my Brethren, that tends them, & I kept him in Discourse till the rest came. I perswaded him all I cou'd to eat something, or to Drink & Sleep till this morning, but he forced against my Perswasions away, & one of our Brethren helped him over the Water, the Capt. said, by the Interpreter, he was a silly fellow. I followed over the Water & found Thos. Aply holding & perswading him, till at last he Drew his long Knife on Aply, because he wou'd not let him have his Sadle baggs; at last it was night & Mr. Aply bore it patiently, & we at length

* See Instructions to him, Col. Rec. Vol. VII, p. 163.

prevail'd, on my promising to give Rum to him when he came home, to go back with us to his Lodging; accordingly I Did so, but put a little water in the bottle to make it show the more; (They have each Day a Gall^n of Beer & twice Rum;) this morning, as usual, I went in their apartment to give them their Glass of Rumm, after which I told the Capt. I had last night a great fear & trouble, because Jagrea had Drawn his knife on Thos. Aply, and that was a Dangerous thing, and wou'd not have they should ride out again, for if he shou'd Drink too much, & Do so to a Soldier, of which there were some last night in the House, they might Shoot him, it being a hostile weapon; he then began to Pack up again. I told him I forgave him, only caution'd them not to go out far to get Drink, but he went away & offer'd to shake hands as farewell. I told him to stay till Mr. Innis Return'd from your Honour; the Capt. says he was so last time at Wayoming, & he bore with him, but now he might go, & he was a Woman. By what I found of Jagrea last night & this morning of the Capt., he has long been Disatisfy'd, and wants to be a Capt.; this in haste from your Honour's

obedient Humble Servant,

WM. EDMONDS.

Directed,

To the Honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr,
Lieutenant Governour of the Province of Pensylvania, &c.
Per Mr. Aply, do.

Indorsed,

Wm. Edmonds, 26 June, 1756, informing of Jagreas Dissatisfaction.

Directions from Capt. Newcastle, 1756.

June ye 28th, 1756.

A Memorandam of what Capt. Newcassel Gave us, 1st, the Captain thinks that he Shall Come In again In about Twenty Days, If he has a Prosperous Jorney; and Farthermore, the Capt. Desireth that If any frend Indians Come in In his Absence, that they may be Kindly Reseved, and Convoid as far as Bethlehem With a Guard; 2nd, Likewise, the Capt^t Says, If he Sends In any Indians Before his Return, the Signal that we Should Reseve them by, that The foremost of them should have a Green Bush In there hands; Thirdly, He Desireth that the Inhabitants may be Informed of the Same, and If any Indians Come In the Day time to there houses with the Like Signal, that they may not be molested, but Reseved as frends; Fourthly, He Likewise Desireth that the Captains and Commanders In Chief may be acquainted of the Signal, that the frend Indians is

To have along all the Frontier forts; fifthly, he Desireth at his Return, Should he have Women and Children With him, and he sendeth one frend Indian at first to any Front tear fort, With the aforesaid Signal, That he and they may be Supplied with Provisions and horses as he Should Think Necessary for them, and to be meet with a Guard of white people over the Mountains. These Instructions Given by Capt Newcastel To Capt Reynolds at Fort Allin.

Indorsed,

Directions from Captn Newcastle. Delivered by James Ennis with a Caution agt Jagrea.

Account given by Indians of Diahoga 1756.

Memorandum of an Acct the Indians *Nicodemus & Jo Peepe* have given concerning what they had heard amongst the Indians at Diaogu, before their Departure from thence, namely:

That sevl hundred Indians of divers Nations, in & abt the Allegeny Mountains, were gone to hold a Council, & form themselves into a Body, (to whom the ill-dispos'd Indians at Diaogu were gone in order to join them,) & then come down from Allegeny to Pennsylvania, Whither the way was free & open, & murder all the white People.

This moved Nicodemus & Jo Peepe, with their Families, to retire from Diaogu & come down to the English, that they might not be forced, by the imbitter'd Indians of Diaogu at their Return from Allegeny, to assist & act with them in their wicked Purposes against the English.

And now these Indians are afraid that the French & the Indians attach'd to their Interest out of divers Nations, will again commit many Murders & Ravages, particularly this Harvest & the ensuing Fall; a Beginning whereof seems to be made on the Swatotawro, by the Indians on the West Branch of Sasquehannah, or from Allegeny, as they believe.

Further, these Indians believe that there will be no Peace with the Allegeny Indians & their wicked Consorts so long as the Lands on the Ohio continue in the French Possession; for that these Indians will be perpetually instigated by the French to do Mischief to the English wherever they can.

June 30th, 1756.*

Indorsed.

June 30. Indian Intelligence from Bethlehem. Received July 4, 1756.

* See Col. Rec. Vol. VII, p. 182.

Order respecting Letters of Marque, 1756.

[L. S.] At the Court at Kensington, the 30th day of June, 1756.

Present:

The King's most Excellent Majesty in Council.

Whereas for preventing any Irregularitys being committed, in the Manner of granting Commissions in the Plantations to Private Ships of War, the Governors of His Majesty's Colonys and Plantations in America are particularly required, by their Instructions, to govern themselves according to their Commissions and Instructions granted in this Kingdom. It is therefore this day Ordered by His Majesty in Council, that Copys of the Commissions and Instructions, directed by His Majesty to be issued here, upon Occasion of the present War with France, be transmitted to the Governors or Commanders-in-Chief of all His Majesty's Colonys and Plantations in America for their Guidance in this Behalf; And for their more particular Information herein it is further Ordered, that Copys of the Warrants issued by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, to the Judge of the High Court of Admiralty here, requiring him to grant the Commissions aforementioned, be likewise transmitted to the said respective Governors, Copys of all which are hereunto annexed.*

W. SHARPE.

Indorsed,

30th June, 1756. Instructions about Letters of Marque against France.

Gov. Morris to Capt. McKee, 1756.

30th June, 1756.

Sir,

The Indian, Newcastle, has a Daughter at Taaffe's called Canadahawaby, which he desired might be brought to Philadelphia, and I promised she should be here at his Return. He has proved a faithful Friend to this Governmt, and is now employ'd by me on a hazardous Journey to the Indians on Sasquahannah.

You will therefore imediately proceed to Mr. Taaffe's and let the Indian Girl know that her Father desir'd me to send for her to be here agt he return'd, & bring her along with you, and take great care of her on the Journy, for shou'd any Accident happen to her it may be of dangerous Consequence to the Affairs of this Province, as well

* Printed copies of the several papers referred to are in the Sec'y's office.

as occasion unfavourable Reflexions on me, as if due care were not taken.

You are to show this Letter to Mr. Taaffe, who on sight thereof is to consider it as an Order on him to deliver you ye Indian Girl, & if you meet with any difficulty or find any Obstruction, you will apply to ye Sheriff & Magistrates, who are hereby commanded to afford you assistance, & to furnish you with a sufficient Guard for the defence of the Person committed to your Care. If she has not had ye Small Pox, as it is now in Town, I desire you will conduct her to Shippensburg, the Proprietor's Seat near this City, and not suffer her to come into ye City; if she has had ye Small Pox, you may bring her to Mrs. Boyl's in Chesnut Street.

Indorsed,

30th June, 1756, Draught Lre. to Tho. McKee to conduct Newcastle's Daughter to Town.

R. Peters to Mr. Taaffe, 1756.

30th June, 1756.

Sir,

I am ordered by the Governor to write to you to send your Account by Captn. McKee against Captn. Newcastle for his Daughter's Board, and any thing you may have furnished her with, and to assure you that you shall be paid all reasonable Charges.

I am, Sir,

Your humble Servant,

RICHARD PETERS.

Directed,

To Mr. Taaffe, on Sasquahannah, by Captn. McKee.

Gov. Sharpe to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Sir,

This is to inform You that Both Houses of our Assembly did, after having sat thereon twelve weeks, yesterday agree upon a Bill for granting £40,000 for His Majesty's Service, part of which Sum is appropriated for the building & Garrisoning a strong Fort on the North Mountain, (which it is determined shall be our westernmost Frontier). Three thousand pounds for the Cherokee or Southern

Indians, in case either of the Neighbouring Colonies shall think proper to send Commissioners in Conjunction with ours to treat with those people, & Twenty-five Thousand Pounds towards carrying on any Expedition which shall be undertaken by Pensilvania, Virginia, this Province, & any other conjointly. I inclose You a Copy of that Clause of the Act, & shall be obliged to You for acquainting me whether Your Assembly will, as that of Virginia has done, contribute their Quota towards the carrying on any such Expedition, & whether any Commissioners will be sent by You to hold a Treaty with the Southern Indians.

I am with great Regard, Sir,
Your most humble
& most obedt Servant,
HORo. SHARPE.

Governor Morris.

Indorsed,
Letter Governor Sharp to Governor Morris. No date.*

Col. Wm. Clapham to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Fort Halifax, July 1st, 1756.

Sir,

I receiv'd your Favor by Commissary Bard, and the hundred Pounds, which I distributed among the Battoemen in Proportion to their several Demands, it not being sufficient to discharge the whole; the Ship Carpenters have finish'd the Carriages for the Cannon, and as soon as they have finish'd the Battoes in Hand, which I expect will be done To-morrow, I shall give them a Certificate of their Services and discharge them all except one, who will be absolutely necessary in the passage, and without whose Assistance we may probably loose more than his Pay can cost the Province, none of my People are to be depended on in Case of an accident on the Water, and I can assure your Honor that I find Fatigue and Difficultys enough to conduct so amphibious an Expedition with all the Assistance I can possibly command.

I shall leave a Serjeants Party at Harris's, consisting of twelve Men, Twenty-four at Hunter's Fort, Twenty-four at McKee's Store, each under the Command of an Ensign, and Capn. Miles with Thirty Men at Fort Halifax, with the inclos'd Instructions, as I have remov'd all the Stores from Harris's and McKee's to this Place; Mr. Galbreath's Presence does not seem very necessary at either of

* "Read in Assembly, May 26, 1756."

those Places, and his refusal to attend here has laid me under the necessity of appointing a Person to act in that Capacity, under the Direction of Commissary Bard, till your Pleasure shall be known. I am at present extreamly engag'd in embarquing the Regiments Stores, &c., for Shamokin, expecting to march Time enough to encamp to-night on the West Side of Susquehannah, about five Miles above Fort Halifax, and promising myself the Pleasure of congratulating your Honor very shortly from Shamokin, am in the mean Time very repectfully,

Your Honor's most obedient,
humble Servant,
WILLM. CLAPHAM.

P. S.—There are still above a Hundred Blanketts wanting in the Regiment.

To his Honor the Governor.

Indorsed,

Colonel Clapham to Governor Morris, dated at Fort Halifax, July 1, 1756.

Orders Col. Clapham to Captain Miles, 1756.

Sir:

You are to command a Party of 30 Men at Fort Hallifax, wch you are to finish wth all Possible Expedition, observing not to suffer your Party to Straggle in small Numbers into the Wood, or to go to any great Distance from the Fort, unless detacht as an Escort, or in Case of special Orders for that Purpose, you are to build Barracks within the Fort for your own men, and also a Store House Thirty feet by Twelve, in which you are carefully to Lodge all Provisions, Stores, &c., belonging to the Province, if the Boards purchasd for that Purpose are not sufficient to finish the Banquette, and execute the other Designs herein Recommended—your men are to be employ'd in Sawing more out of the Pine Logs now lying near the Fort; you are to keep a Constant Guard and relieve it regularly, to have continually one Sentry in each Bastion, and in Case of an Attack to retreat to the Fort and Defend it to the last Extremity. If any thing extraordinary Occurs, you are immediately to dispatch Notice thereof to his Honor the Governour, and signify the same to me if any Releif or Instructions may be necessary.

W. C.

Given at Fort Halifax, July 1st, 1756.

Indorsed,

Instructions to Capn Miles, dated at Fort Halifax, July 1st, 1756.

Timothy Horsfield to Gov. Morris, 1756.

May it Please your Honour:

The Inclosed was communicated to me Last night, and as I think it contains matters of great Importance, I have Dispatched this Express with it To your Honour.

I am with all Due Respect,

Your Honours most

Obed^t Humble Servt.

TIM. HORSFIELD.

Beth^m, July 3, 1756.

Directed.

On His Majestys Service—To the Honourable Robt H. Morris, Esqr., Governour of Pensylvania.

Indorsed.

M^r. Horsfield, with Indian Intelligence. Recd. July 4, 1756. Answerd by ye Express—desire him to thank the Indians for me, & give them such marks of favour on this occasion as he thought reasonable—desire the Brethren will take Care of ye Indians lately arrived, till otherwise disposed of.*

July 3^d, 1756.

Gov. Morris to Gov. Hardy, 1756.

Philadelphia, 5 July, 1756.

Sir:

The inclosed Intelligence was sent me by Express from Bethlehem. The two Indians who gave it are come there from Diahoga, & confess they have been concerned with our Enemies in the late Attacks made in the Winter on our Frontiers, but express a hearty concern, & have thrown themselves on the Clemency of the Government. The Information they give is ye more likely to be true, as it is known y^t the Bulk of those who committed ye Murders & Devastations in this Province—others setting ye houses at Wyomink on fire, went off in the Spring to the Ohio, & have been followed by numbers since.

Indorsed.

Draft Letter to Sir Ch^s. Hardy, dated 5th July, 1756.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. VII., p. 189, 190.

Gov. Morris to Gov. Hardy, 1756.

5th July, 1756.

Sir:

I am very much concerned to find many of the merchants and people here uneasy under the present restraint, so necessary for the general safety of these Colonies, and those who Informed you there were many vessells loading here to take the advantage of the Expiration of our Embargo act, had too much truth on their side, as there are nigh twenty that will be full by the 7th Instant.

Tho' I have publicly given out that I shall continue the Embargo by my own authority, if the assembly do not, which you will see I have done by the inclosed order; However, I think it right to try what the Lower Assembly will do, and for that purpose have summoned them to meet at New Castle on Tuesday next, and intend to set out this day for that place. I do not Expect our assembly will continue these Acts more than a month to come, which I think much too short a time, and if you, and Mr. Belcher, approve of the Measure, we may continue the Embargo upon the terms it now is, by our own authority; this, I think, we may well justifie under the directions in Mr. Secretary Fox's, in case our assemblies, upon application, should refuse to do it.

I am with you in opinion that the French, both in Europe & America, have intelligence of every thing we do, and that we have many Spyes amongst us, but this is only matter of opinion for which I have no authority. There were many Indian traders with Braddock and Croghan, among others who acted as a Captain of the Indians under a Warrant from Genl Braddock, & I never heard any objections to his conduct in that capacity. For many years he had been very largely concerned in the Ohio trade, was upon that river frequently, and had a considerable influence among the Indians, speaking the Language of several nations, and being very Liberal or rather profuse in his gifts to them, which, with the Losses he sustained by the French who siezed great quantities of his goods, and by not getting the debts due to him from the Indians, he became Bankrupt, and since has lived at a place called Aughwick, in the back parts of this Province, where he had generally a number of Indians with him, for the maintainance of whom the Province allowed him sums of money from time to time, but not to his satisfaction. After this he went by my order with those Indians & Joynd Genl Braddock, who gave the warrant I have mentioned—since Braddocks defeat he returned to Aughwick, where he remained till an act of assembly was passed here granting him a freedom from arrests for ten years; this was done that the Province might have the Benefit of his Knowledge of the Woods and his Influence among the Indians, and immediately thereupon, while I was last at York, a Captains Commission was given to him, & he was orderd to

raise men for the defence of the Western Frontier, which he did in a very Expeditious manner, but not so frugally as the Comissioners for disposing of the Publick money thought he might have done; he continued in the Command of one of the Companies he had raised, and of Fort Shirley, on the Western frontier about three months, during which time he sent, by my direction, Indian Messengers to the Ohio for Intelligence, but never procured me any that was very material, and having a dispute with the Commiss^rs about some accounts between them, in which he thought himself ill-used; he resigned his commission, and about a month ago informed me that he had not received pay upon Genl Braddocks warrant, and desired my recomendation to Genl Shirley, which I gave him, and he set off directly for Albany, & I hear he is now at Onondago with S^r W^m. Johnson.

I believe he knows nothing of the French Language, but what he may have pickd up among the Indians with whom he dealt, having been concerned in that trade ever since he came into this Country. I send you a letter of his under this cover, & the hand being pretty remarkable, you may easily find out if any papers you have procured are of his writing. I know very few of the Indian traders besides, as they are mostly a Low sort of people, generally too ignorant to be employd as Spys, but not at all too virtuous.

The Barron you mention was formerly imprisoned here, when I was out of town, and the Council Examined and discharged him, finding his papers imaterial. I have since that made some enquiry concerning him, but can hear nothing about him.

I shall inviolably observe the same confidence sterring with you, nor communicate this Correspondence to any but M^r. Peters, who I shall make use of to transcribe my letters & papers on this subject, and as he is acquainted with the Traders & People that used to be about the bands of the Indians, he promised to get all their hand writing & give it me.

I will consider the Principal Heads on this, on which to proceed in this nice affair, & as they occur to me I will set them down, & write your further on the subject.

By means of the Roman Catholicks who are allowed in this & the neighbouring Province of Maryland, the free Exercise of their Religion and therein the other priveleges of English Freemen, the French may be made acquainted with the steps taken against them, nor do I see how it is possible to detect them, as from the head of Chesopeak Bay the roads thro' this Province to Potowmic are open & much travelled, especially by Germans, who have a large settlement at Frederick Town, in Maryland, a frontier place near Kittochtinny Hills, none are examined who pass that way & perhaps there are none who live there that are qualified to make the proper Examinations. The Secretary tells me that of late years many French from Alsace & Lorrain have mixed with the Germans, were

admitted to their Qualifications & live among them in the remote parts of ye Province.

At their first attack the Indians carried off one or two of these People from a place called Jno. Penn's tract & ye French may possibly employ them to procure Intelligence.

Sr. Charles Hardie.

5th July, 1756.

Indors'd.

Lre to Sr. Charles Hardie, 5th July, 1756.

Gov. Morris to Lord Loudoun, 1756.

My Lord:

This will wait your arrival at New York, where I hope you will soon recover the fatigues of so long a voyage, and find the Country and Climate agreeable.

His Majesty having ordered me to lay before you the Military state of this his Province, I think it my duty to Inform your L'd'p that sixty thousand pounds being granted in November last for the defence of this Province, It was thought necessary to raise a number of men and Build a range of small Forts & Block-houses along the Western and Northern frontier, the situation of which your L'd'p will see upon the Map of part of this Province which I have now the Honor to send you, and they are garrisoned by troops in the pay of the Province, subjected to the articles of war by an act of our Legislature. These troops have been Employed for some months in ranging the woods from one Fort to another, and are by that means become expert woods-men, and as such may be usefull on other occasions.

Besides the Forts along the frontier of the settlemts I have now four hundred men on their march up the Sasquehanna to erect a Fort at the Junction of the two main Branches of that river, which is a post of Consequence, as one of those Branches heads in the Country of the Six Nations, and the other interlocks with the water of the Ohio, and I hourly expect to hear of their having gained a Lodgement there.

Major Ruthford will Inform you of the Progress made in the raising men for the Royal American Regiment which you may be assured is a service I shall give all possible countenance and encouragemt to while I remain in the administration of this Gevernment. Agreeable to the King's commands I recommended it to my Assembly to make provision for paying the Masters of such Servants as were inclinable to enter into his Majesties Service, but I have as yet no answer from them on that head, nor do I expect any, as the taking Servants is a very unpopular thing in this Province, many of

whom now lying under a severe confinem^t in our Goals for no other crime but that of voluntarily enlisting themselves in his Majesty's Service, and all the measures I could think of for their enlargem^t have hitherto proved ineffectual. Such an Influence has popular Opinions upon the Courts and Lawyers in this Province.

I send your L'd'p with this some intelligence I lately received from two Indians that are come in from among our Enemies, upon which I have sent orders to all the Forces upon ye Frontiers to be upon their guard.

Lord Louden.

Indorsed.

Df^t of a Letter to Lord Loudon, July 5th, 1756.

John Bell to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Sir,

After some conversation with Mr. Taylor I ask'd him if I could send the Vessel down to Newcastle, being in hopes of getting your Honour's orders for her to proceed from thence to Newfoundland, & it would save two or three days delay there. He said he could not clear her even to Newcastle without the Governour's order, and at the same time he was, with me, very sensible of your Honour's good inclinations to expedite the supplys for the King's troops. I must therefore beg leave to trouble you with this request, the favour of your order to the Collector to Admit the Princess Louisa, Brigantine to clear for Newfoundland so soon as it is convenient, which my Friend Mr. Armond will receive & forward me without giving yourself further trouble.

I beg leave to subscribe myself what I really am, with great sincerity,

Your Honour's

Most Obed^t & most Hum. Servt,

JOHN BELL

Philadelphia,
July 5th, 1756.

Directed.

To The Hon^le Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr.,
Govr & Commander-in-Chief of the Province of *
Pennsylvania, &c., at
Newcastle.

Par Ami.

Indorsed.

July 5th, 1756. Mr. Bell to Governor Morris.

* See Col. Rec. Vol. VII., p. 187.

Gen Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1756.

New York, July 5th, 1756.

Dear Sir:

The Day I embark'd from Albany I had the pleasure of your Nephew, Capt. Staats's Arrival there, & as he was desirous of making you a Visit before he went to Oswego, I have brought him here with me for that Purpose,

He will acquaint you in what forwardness our Preparations are for opening the Campaigne both upon Lake George and Lake Ontario; and refer you to him for an Account of them, with only saying, that they exceed even my own Expectations; and that there is a very fair prospect of carrying our Points in a great Measure this year against the French at both places, if the carrying our preparations into Execution is not retarded beyond its just time.

General Abercrombie & Colonel Webb have both of them press'd me so strongly to wait here 'till Lord Loudoun's Arrival, in order to have a full Consultation personally with him upon the State of his Majesty's Service here, & the plan of operations for this year, that I shall venture to stay here a few Days; But I have so express orders from the King to make all possible Dispatch to England, that I dare not venture to stay many.

I am sorry to find that Mr. Alexander & I have miss'd of your Letter in answer to his & mine upon the Subject of his going with me to England; about which I am very anxious as I find his presence there may be absolutely necessary to clear up some Articles of the very large Accounts, which must be transmitted to England from him, your Nephew, Lewis Morris, & Mr. Ewing, and will be examin'd into at the Offices, &c., at home; you are very sensible, my Dear Sir, how greatly any Difficulties in passing them would embarrass me as well as them; and how incapable I must be, without Mr. Alexander's Assistance in clearing them up; and consequently of what near Concern, and necessity to me, the Instance I ask of your Friendship is, that he may have your Consent to go with me; wch. I hope is contain'd in the Letters that are gone to Albany.

It would give me the greatest pleasure, was it possible for me to see you, before I go for England; many things might occurr to us, when together, wch, might be proper to be talk'd over with the Ministry upon my Arrival there, wch. may otherwise slip me.

I am in the most affectionate manner,
Dear Sir,
Your most Obedient, and
faithfull Servant,
W. SHIRLEY.

Hon. Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr.

Indorsed—

From Wm. Shirley, New York, July 5, 1756.

Gov. Charles Hardy to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Fort George, New York, July 9, 1756.

Sir:

I have received your favours of the 5th of July, with the Papers Inclosed. The Information given you by the Indians, has but a bad prospect, but I hope the Chain of Forts you have built, with proper garrisons to Scour the Country, will defeat their wicked Schemes.

The Assembly having done all their Business, will be prorogued to Morrow, to give them a long recess. I am sorry your Assembly would not continue the Prohibition to the term in the Jersey Act, as I then should have no difficulty of doing the same. With regard to an Embargo, I shall have no doubt in concurring with you and Mr. Belcher, and shall leave Orders here with His Majesty's Council accordingly.

As I have judged it more for his Majesty's Service to go to Albany for some time, I propose leaving this City on Sunday; and as the President of the Council will have Orders to open Publick Letters from the several Provinces to me, it will be proper those from you upon our secret Correspondence, should be put under cover to the Eldest of Council, to desire him to forward to me without opening it, as he may others; if you approve this measure, I will leave such directions with Mr. Kennedy.

The Letters of Croghans is by no means the hand I want, I am rather Inclined to think, the Treasonable Correspondence must have been carried on by some Roman Catholics; I have heard you have an ingenious Jesuit in Philadelphia. I have nothing new to Inform you of on this Subject, and shall be much obliged to you for any thing that may occur to you.

The Packett from England brings no publick dispatches, nor no Account of Lord Loundouns Imbarking for America.

I am with great Regard,

Sir, Your most Obedient,

Humble Servant,

CHAS. HARDY.

The Honble. Govr. Morris.

Indorsed.

From Gov. Hardy, New York, July 9, 1756.

Minutes of a Council at New York, 1756.

At a Council held at Fort George, in the City of New York, on Saturday the tenth day of July, 1756.

PRESENT.

His Excellency Sir Charles Hardy, Kn^t., Capt. General, &c.

Mr. Kennedy,	Mr. Murray,
Lieut. Gov. De Lancey,	Mr. Holland,
Mr. Rutherford,	Mr. Chambers.

The Board taking into consideration the propriety of continuing the prohibition laid* and still subsisting in this Province, on the Exportation of provisions (except to Nova Scotia, for the use of his Majesty's Forces and Navy, and to any of the British Colonies, on application of the respective Governours) and it appearing that a prohibition is laid on the exportation of provisions from Pensilvania, by Governor Morris's order to the Collector of his Majesty's Customs at Philadelphia, of the 5th of July Instant, by which the said Collector is restrained from clearing any Vessel laden with Provisions, except to Halifax, Annapolis, or Chegnecto, in Nova Scotia, and to New York, until the said order shall be revoked; and that a like prohibition is in force until the first of August next, by Act of the Legislature of New Jersey. And it also appearing that Governor Morris is willing and desirous that the said prohibition sho'd be continued, and if the Assemblies of Pensilvania and the lower Counties refuse to pass a Law for that purpose, that he will continue it by his own order. It is therefore ordered by his Excellency with the advice of the Council, that the Collectors of his Majesty's Customs of this or any other Port within this Province, do not clear any Vessel loaden with Provisions, until further orders, unless to Halifax, Annapolis, or Chegnecto or such Vessels as his Majesty's Council in the City of New York, in the absence of the Commander in chief, shall give permission to be cleared for any of the British Colonies; with power, nevertheless, to his Majesty's Council, in the City of New York, (in the absence of his Excellency, now going to Albany) upon proof of such prohibition ceasing or being taken off in Pensilvania or New Jersey, to make an order for taking off the prohibition in this Province. His Excellency recommended to the Council, to Communicate this Resolution and order by the next post, to the Governors of New Jersey and Pensilvania.

LAMBT. MOORE, D^t. Secry.

Indorsed.

Minute Council, New York, July 10, 1756.

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. VII, p. 196.

Conrad Weiser to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Honoured Sir!

Imediately after my Return from Philadelphia, I sent Orders to the Captains Busse, Morgan and Smith, to meet me at Fort Henry, on the 9th of this Instant, to consult together over certain measures, how to oppose the Enemy of killing the People in Reaping and gathering in their Harvest. The Evening before, to witt, on the 8th of this Instant, Mr. Young arrived with your Honours Orders to me, I therefore set out next Morning about 5 o'clock for Fort Henry, in Company with Mr. Young, as farr as Benjamin Spyckers. I arrived at Fort Henry by 10 o'Clock. Capt. Busse met me with an Escort of Eight Men on Horse Back, about Six Miles on this Side of Fort Henry; about 12 o'Clock, the Captains Morgan and Smith arrived. I imediately made your Honours Orders known to them, and the following Deposition was made: That eight Men of Capt. Smiths Company shall assist the People in the Hole, (The Place where twice Murder was comitted) to gather in their Harvest, and stay over Night in the Moravian House; Eight of his Men to range Westward of his Fort under the Hill, and if Occasion require to be stationed in two Parties to guard the Reapers; Sixteen Men are to be in and about the Fort to help and protect the Neighbours, but constantly 10 out of the Sixteen are to stay in the Fort; Nine men are to stay constantly in Manity Fort, and Six men to range Eastward from Manity towards Swataro, and Six men to range westward towards Susquehannah: Each Party so farr that they may reach their Fort again before Night. Capt. Busse's Company stationed as follows: Ten men at Bernhard Tridels, next to the Moravians, Eight men at Cas. par Snebelies, Six men at Daniel Shue's or Peter Klop's: All these are Westward of Fort Henry. Eastwards Capt. Busse is to Post four men at Jacob Stein's, Three men at Ulrich Spies, Six men at the Widow Kendal, the Rest, consisting of nineteen men, to remain in the Fort. Capt. Morgan's Company, as followes: Six men to range from the little Fort on Northkill, westward to the Emericks, and stay there if the People unite to work together in their Harvest, Six men to range Eastward on the same footing, Eight men to stay in that Fort, fifteen men are to stay in Fort Libanon, Eight men to protect the People over the Hill in harvest Time, Ten men to range constantly Eastward or Westward, and if the People return to their Plantations thereabouts, to protect those first that join together to do their work.

All the aforesaid Men are posted as much in a Range as was possible, and would sute the Settlement best.

Your Honour will observe that there is not Men enough left in the Forts to change or relieve the Men on Duty, but scarce sufficient to keep the Forts, and send Provisions to the several Posts.

I did propose to the Captains to make a draft of about twenty

five men out of the three Companies, and send them over the Hills to a Certain Place on Kind Creek, to lie in Ambush there for the Enemy, for about Ten Days, but the large Frontier which they have to guard with their men, would not Admit of it at this Time, so I was therefore obliged to give over that Point.

A great number of the Back Inhabitants came to the Fort that Day, and cried out for Guards. Their situation is indeed desperate. About forty men from Tulpenhocon have been out for their Protection, but they got soon tired, and rose Disputes and Quarrels in Order to get home again.

I hear that the People over Susquehannah will have Protection, cost what it will; If they cant obtain it from the English, they will send to the French for it. I believe (by what I did hear) that some on this Side of the River are of the same Oppinion, at least there is such a Mummbling among the back Inhabitants.

I must mention to your Honour, that when the People about Swartaro and the Hole heard of Capt. Smiths being accused for neglect of Duty, they wrote a Letter to me in his Favour, which I send by Sammy Weiser, who can translate it, if your Honour orders him to do it. I also send a Letter from Capt. Busse, which contains the Particulars of the last murder. I received it by the way coming from Philad^a, and stopt the Express, (as it was only to me) in Order to save Charges.

As I had no Clerk for some time, I wrote a General Letter yesterday to all the Comanding Officers Eastward from Fort Henry to Easton, with a Copy of your Honours Orders inclosed. I could not send every one a Copy, but ordered them to take it themselves and send it forward imediately.

Just this moment my Son Sammy arrived from Fort Henry, and tells me that there had been an Engagement at Caghnekacheeky, wherein twelve on our side were killed, and Six Indians; That our People kept the Field and scalped the Indians, and that the Indians ran off without any Scalp. As bad news as it is, I wish it may be true.

I have at Present no more to trouble your Honour with, But Remain,

Sir,

your very obedient and

humble Servant,

CONRAD WEISER.

Heidleberg, in the County of Berks,
July the 11th, 1756.

P. S. I should have told your Honour that I keep a Serjeant, with nine private men of my Company at Fort Henry, under Capt. Busse, with that Proviso, that they shall stay in the fort and defend it when the Capt^s men are on their several posts or Ranging; the Captn must keep a Ranging party all along; to morrow another Ser-

jant marches from Reading with nine men, to relief those of my Company that have ben out now two weeks. I am Sir, &c.

C. W.

Governor Morris.

Indorsed.

From Col. Weiser, July 11, 1756.

Gov. Shirley to Gov. Morris, 1756.

New York, July 12th, 1756.

Dear Sir,

Your two last letters to me and Mr. Alexander, contain such strong marks of your Sincere regard and friendship for me, as give me great consolation, and will forever lay me under the highest obligation to you.

The light in which you consider Mr. Alexander's going to England with me is I flatter myself a just one, and it will give me the highest pleasure to have that Voyage prove of real Service to him in the future course of his life.

We have followed your Advice in our application for his mothers leave; It was open'd with a letter from me to her, and followed the evening after with a Vissit; we could not have desir'd better success with the Old Lady than we have met with, the whole affair was freely and fully talked over between her and me, her mind is perfectly settled to it, I think I might say she intirely approves of it; and it is Certainly a Circumstance of the greatest satisfaction to us in this Case, that Colonel Barton, and those of the best Sense, who are friends to us both, most earnestly press Mr. Alexander's going to England at this conjuncture, as indispensably necessary.

An happy meeting with you here for a few hours would Crown every thing, and I will not dispair of it.

With regard to your self, after the perpetual scene of Vexation, Absurdity, and perverseness in some, wickedness in others, you have been embarrassed with since your being in the Chair of Government in Pensilvania; I cant but think that the necessity of public Affairs in North America, not to make the least dependence upon Ministerial Gratitude will soon conduct you into a post of Government in New Jerseys, where in all human appearance, your own personal Ease and Satisfaction, as well as Success in the public Service, will make you Happy the remainder of your life, and you will be at leisure to reflect with Satisfaction even upon that part of it, which you spent so disagreably in Pensilvania.

Nothing is wanting to make it appear how light our friend P—— C—— will be found in his new employments, but being weighed in the Ballance by entring upon the exercise of them. According to the general Idea, which is at present conceived of him by the pub-

lic, he is likely soon to be dispised & hated throughout North America.

Many thanks to you, Dear Sir, for the very affectionate instance of the kind regard you have shewn me in your endeavouring to procure a public Testimony, from Several of the Colonies in favor of my Services in North America, to attend my Exit. I shall ever retain a most gratefull sense of it, and the warmest Friendship my mind is capable of for you.

I hope the Revolution in your Nephew Staats affairs, during his stay in England, will, upon his explaining it to you, prove to your own approbation and promote his Happiness.

I am, with the most perfect Truth and Esteem,

Sir,

Your most Affectionate

Friend & Servant,

W. SHIRLEY.

Indorsed.

Letter from Wm. Shirley. New York, July 12, 1756.

Gov. Belcher to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Sir:

I wrote you a few Lines by the Post on the 13 of June, inclosing a Copy of an Act of this Legislature, relative to the Exportation of Provisions from this Colony, to which I refer you. I am now to own your Honours two Letters, both of the 5th Current, and woud inform you, that the Assembly of this Province are to meet me on Thursday, the 22d Curr^t, when I shall lay before them the necessity of extending their Act relating to the Exportation of Provisions; but if they shou'd not come into it, I shall then lay the Matter before His Majesty's Council, in order to take the same Method the Governour of New York, and Your Honour have done, for I think it of great Importance to His Majesty's Service & Interest, that the Prohibition of Provisions, &c^a. be still carried on to a Longer Time.

I very particularly observe what Your Honour writes of the Account you had received from two Indians, *Nicodemus* and *Jo. Peepe*, of what they had heard among the Indians at *Diahogo*,* viz., that a Number of French & Indians wou'd soon be coming from the Allegany Mountains to commit Ravages and Murders upon the Frontiers of these Colonies, the same Acc^t I have also received from the Governour of Virginia, & upon it I expresst my Orders to the Commanding Officer on the Frontiers of this Colony, to be well on his Guard, in Order to repell them in Case they shoud make Incursions, or Attempts upon the People of this Province.

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. VII., p. 186.

About three Weeks ago I received a Letter from Mr. Presidt Strettil, respecting a Treaty your Honour was then upon with the Delaware Indians,* and upon it I gave orders to Colo. Dehart, who Commands the Troops, posted for the Defence of this Province, to give no Interuption in that Matter, nor to go with any of his men beyond the Bounds of this Province; but I have heard nothing more of the said Treaty since the recd of Mr. Strettils Letter, tho' I shoud be glad to be informed whether Your Honour concluded the Treaty with these Indians, to any good Effect.

I am with much Respect,

Sir,

Your Honours

Most obedient and

Most humble Servant,

J. BELCHER.

L. Govr Morris.

Elizb Town, (N. J.) July 13, 1756.

Indorsed.

Govr Belcher—The Embargo & Indian affairs.

July 13, 1756.

Minutes of a Council at Shamokin, 1756.

At a Council held at the Camp at Shamokin, July 13th, 1756.

Present—all the Officers of Colonel Claphams Regiment, except Capt. Miles, who Commands the Garrison at Fort Hallifax.

The Subalterns complain, that after expectation given them by several Gentlemen, Commissioners, of receiving seven Shillings and six Pence each Lieut., & five shillings & six Pence each Ensign ℔ day, the Commissary has receiv'd Instructions to pay a Lieut. but five shillings and sixpence, and an Ensign four Shillings.

Captain Salter affirms, that the Gentlemen Commissioners assur'd him that the Subalterns pay was Augmented from five Shillings and six pence, and four Shillings to the sums mention'd above.

Lieut. Davies reports, that Mr. Fox assur'd him that the pay of a Lieut. in this Regiment woud be Established at seven Shillings & six Pence ℔ Day, and that Mr. Peters, the Provincial Secretary, told him the same as a thing concluded upon, but hinted at the same time that he might expect but five shillings and sixpence ℔ Day, before he came into the Regiment.

Lieut. Garraway says, that Mr. Hamilton told him at Dinner, at

* See it Colon. Rec., Vol. VII., p. 166.

Mr. Cunninghams, that the Pay of a Captain in this Regiment was to be ten Shillings, a Lieutenants seven Shillings & six pence, & an Ensigns five Shillings & Sixpence.

Capt. Lloyd says, that Mr. Hughs, one of the Gentlemen Commissrs told him the same thing.

The Gentlemen Officers beg leave to Appeal to his Honor, the Governour, as an Evidence that that Opinion Universally Prevailed thro' out the Regiment, and thinking themselves unjustly dealt wth by the Gentlemen Commissrs, are Unanimously Determin'd not to serve longer on these terms, they therefore beg Leave to return your Honor their most hearty and sincere thanks for the Favours receiv'd, the grateful Impressions of wch they shall never forget, and at the same time request a permission from your Honor to Resign on the Twentieth day of Augst next, desiring to be releiv'd accordingly.

Levi Trump,	Sam. Jno. Atlee,
Patrick Davis,	Chas. Brodhead,
Daniel Clark,	Wm. Patterson,
Chas. Garraway,	Joseph Scott,
Asher Clayton,	John Morgan,
Wm. Anderson,	Saml. Miles,
John Hambright,	James Bryan,
William Plunket,	Pat. Allison.

Indorsed,

Minutes of a Council held at the Camp at Shomokin.
July 13th, 1756.

Timothy Horsfield to Wm. Parsons, 1756.

Dear Sir,

About an hour after you Left us, Came one of Our People that went in Compy with Mr. Edmonds, &c. to Meet ye Indians, and Brought word yt part of ye Company of Indians Lodg'd Last night at Jno. Fley's, & ye others a Little distance Behind; that there is About 40 Indians, Men, Women & Children, wether New Castle & Compy be Included in this Number I don't know. Now as ye Number yt are coming is Near 3 times as many as we first heard of, I thought it highly Necessary to Advise you of it as soon as Possible; we shall Entertain them to-Night as well as we can, & I shall do My best that nothing be said to the Indians of their being Moved to one place or another till they hear it of you in a proper manner. I hope to See You here in ye Morning.

I am, Dear Sir,
Your Affectionate, Hble Servt,
TIMO. HORSFIELD.

Directed.—To Wm. Parsons, Esqr., at Easton.
Indorsed.—15 July, 1756, Timothy Horsfield.

Archibald Kennedy for Merchants to Gov. Morris, 1756.

15th July, 1756.

Sir,

The Merchants of New York who wou'd fain hope for Some, if not an equal Share of your favour with those of Philadelphia, understanding there are a number of vessels Loaden ready to push off so soon as the embargoe is taken off, humbly request Your Honour would be pleased to give them Such timely notice, (not haveing been permitted to make their vessels Storehouses,) so as they may Start upon an equal-footing. This, I am desired to acquaint Your Honour will be acknowledged as a particular favour.

I am,

Your Honour's

Most Obedient,

Humble Servant,

ARCHD. KENNEDY.

Indorsed,

15 July, 1756, Mr. Kennedy to have Notice when the Embargo here was to be taken off.

Wrote an Answer July 18.

[P. S.]

July 15th, 1756.

We have Just now heard from Albany, by Several Letters, that Col. Bradstreet on his return from Oswego was attackt, himself kill'd, one of the Butlers, and a great many more, the particulars not yet come to hand; a number of Battoes are seen dayly hovering near Fort Henry. Capt. Rogers is missing. Genl. Johnson returned in a bad State of Health.

* See page 714.

To James Young, from Captains of Col. Clapham's Regiment, 1756.

The Captains of Colonel Clapham's Regiment will give Receipts to the Commissary for Money for the full Payment of their several Companys no longer than 'till the first June, for the following Reasons:

1st. Making Deduction of half the Pay due to the Men indiscriminately & without Regard to or Ascertaining their several Respective Debts to the Province wou'd create a universal uneasiness, since in such Case the Deduction wou'd be the same where the Debts are Vastly Different, wch if just in itself, wou'd to People so little vers'd in Arithmetic as they are, appear extreamly unreasonable.

2ndly. By this Method of Payment, the security left in the Hands of the Government is the same & infinitely greater satisfaction given to the Men, who are already exasperated for want of their Pay, and Complain at the same time that without knowing the Price of their Cloaths they shall never know when they are out of Debt.

3rdly. That the Men being all by this means paid up to one Day, the Stoppage for the Future on Acct of their Cloaths will be more equal, & prevent that Disatisfaction wch will otherwise naturally arise among People ignorant of Accounts, from the seeming Inequality of the Deductions.

4th. Because they are fully Convinc'd that if this Method is not Pursu'd, no Punishment ever so severe can deter the Men from Desertion in great Numbers, and by that Means leaving the Works already begun imperfect, and doing a manifest Injury to the Service, 'tis their Opinion that a Deduction of one-third of the Men's Pay Monthly wou'd give greater satisfaction to the Men, & be more consistent wth the good of the Service.

Willm. Clapham,
James Burd,
Thomas Lloyd,
Joseph Shippen, Jr.
Patrk. Worke,
Elisha Saltar,
David Jameson,
Nathaniel Miles.

Indorsed.

15th July, 1756. Reasons Assign'd by the Captains of Colo. Clapham's Regt for their Refusing to give Receipts for the full Pay of their Companies.

James Young to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Sir:

I did myself the honor to write to you on my arrival at Shamokin, I stayed there four Days in which time I was greatly perplexd how to act, there being a general Dissatisfaction amongst the Officers concerning my instructions from the Commissioners to pay them, for therein I am Commanded to Pay the Lieu^{ts} 5-6, and the Ensigns 4 p^{r} Day whereas they expected 7-6, and 5-6, I am likewise Ordered to pay but 384 private men and 16 Serjants, I found several more in the Camp besides Ensign Meirs, with 20 men at Maggies Stores, Ensign Johnston with 23 men at Hunters Mill, and a Serjant with 13 at Harris's, all Order'd there by Coll^{l} Clapham, and above his Number of 400. I therefore did not pay them, neither could I muster them the Certificates of Enlistment being dispers'd among the Officers at Shamokin, these People are Extremely uneasy for their Pay.

The Coll^{l}. is highly displeas'd, I had not orders to pay him for his Cap^{ts} Commission, and likewise that I brought him no money to pay the Battoe men, he talks loudly of his ill usage, and threatens to leave the Service, and that he will go and join the Six Nations, whether they side with the English or French. This I thought my Duty to acquaint your honor with. I was informed that he is to Charge the Province with 116 Battoo men at 2-6 p^{r} day, at the same time I was Credibly inform'd that the greatest part of them are Soldiers in his Reg^{t}, and are now dayly imployed in the Battoes and are very Capable to Work them. The Officers in Genl seems not at all pleased under their Coll^{ls} Command, all of them but three or four have been confined by him, and Continued so during his pleasure, and releas'd without Tryal by the same Authority. I am sorry to say I much doubt the success of building a Fort at that important Place Shamokin, under the present uneasiness of the Officers and men, I was Order'd by the Commiss^{r} to pay all the men up to the 1st of July, Deducting half their pay for their Clothing, but the Cap^{ts} Refused to receive it on such terms, and presented me a paper setting forth their reasons of which I send you a Copy, I being apprehensive of a General desertion, and considering that the Province had the same security for the Clothing Complyed with their Demands, and thereby have broke my Orders from the Commis^{rs}. I shall be Extremely sorry if I am blamed for so doing for nothing but the good of the Service, (and so I judge it to be,) would have induced me to act Contrary to my Instructions. The Subalterns would not grant me receipts for their full pay, but in part. If I have done wrong I heartily beg your Pardon, and that you will continue that friendship to me, I have already so Largely Experienc'd, and shall ever greatfully acknowledge.

Captn Loyd was to sett out soon after me for Philad^a, to Lay their Greivances before your Honor.

I left Shamokin Early on Fryday morning in a Battoe, we Rowed her down to Harris's before night with four oars. There is but one fall above those you saw, not so bad as those at Hunters, it is ab^t 4 miles above fort Hallifax.

I came here yesterday noon hoping to find money sent by the Commiss^rs to pay the forces on this side the River, as they Promised, but as yet none is come, neither is Col^l Armstrong Come, and I find but 16 of his men here, the rest are gone to Shermans Valley to Protect the Farmers at their Harvist, so when the money comes, I shall be at a loss for an Escort. I am inform'd that a Number of the men at the Forts whose time of three months is expired agreeable to their Enlistments have left their Posts and expects their pay when I go there, this may be of bad consequence, & I heartily wish there were none Enlisted for less than Twelve months, I am perswaded the officers would find men enough for that time.

I am,
with great Respect
Sir,
Your most obodient
and most Humble Servt.
JAS. YOUNG.

Carlisle 18th July 1756.

To the Honble Governor Morris.

Indorsed.

James Young.

Col. Clapham & James Burd to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Shamokin, July 18th, 1756.

S^r:

I am desir'd herewith to Transmit to your Honor the results of a Council held at the Camp at Shamokin, July the 13th,* in consequence of a disappointment in the Pay of ye Subalterns, from wch it will appear to your Honor that they think Themselves ill-treated by the Gentlemen, Commissioners, whose Honor they rely'd on and several of whose promises they recite in Regard to their Pay, and that they are unanimously determined to resign their Commissions on the 20th day of August next if the respective Promises & Assurances of the Gentlemen Commissioners on that Head are not fully Comply'd with before that time.

* See page 700.

I further beg leave to address your Honor wth a Complaint in behalf of myself, and the other Captains and Officers of this Regiment. I had the Honour to receive from you, S^r., a Commission as Captain in the Regiment under my Command, dated March the 29th, for which the Gentlemen Commissioners, notwithstanding it was represented to them, have been pleas'd to withhold my pay and Assign'd as a Reason that a man can execute but one Office at a time, and ought to devote his whole service to it, which is not only an unjust remark but affronting to all Gentlemen who have the Honor to hold directly from his Majesty or from any of his Majesty's Officers more than one Commission at the same time, by supposing them Defficient in some Part of their Duty, and is virtually an invective against the Government of Great Britain itself. They have likewise been pleas'd to deal with Major Burd upon the same principles and have paid him only as a Captain, which must be confess'd is a very concise method of reducing without the Sentence or even the Sanction of a Court Martial.

The several Captains think themselves affronted by the Commiss^rs Instructions to the Commissary to pay but two Serjeants and forty-eight Private Men in each Company, notwithstanding two Corpor^ls and one Drummer were appointed in each Company by your Honor's express Command, this instruction appears to them also as a Comtempt of your Honor's Orders, and have accordingly paid these non-commissioned officers out of their own Pockets.

I enter'd into this Service at the Solicitation of some of the Gentlemen Commissioners, in Dependance on Promisses, which they have never performed, and have acted ever since not only in two Capacities but in twenty, having besides the Duties of my Commissions as Col^o & Captain been oblig'd to Discharge those of an Engineer and Overseer at the same time, and undergone in the Service incredible Fatigues without Materials and without thanks. But as I am to be paid only as a Col^l I intend while I remain in this Service only to fullfil the Duties of that Commission, which never was yet suppos'd to include building Forts and ten thousand other Services which I have perform'd, so that the Gentlemen Commissioners have only to send Engineers, Pioneers and other Labourers, wth the necessary Teams and Utensils, while I, as Col^l, preside over the Works, see that your Honor's orders are punctually executed, & only Defend the Persons engag'd in the Execution of them. In pursuance of a resolution of your Honor and the Gentlemen Commissioners to allow me an Aid-de-Camp, who was to be paid as a Supernumarary Capt in the Regiment; I accordingly appointed Capt Lloyd as my Aid-de-Camp on April 2nd, 1756, who has ever since acted as such in the most Fatiguing and disagreeable Service on Earth and received only Captain's Pay.

Your Honor was pleased to appoint Lieu^t. Clayton Adjutant to the Regiment under my Command by a Commission, bearing date the 24th day of May, 1756, but the Gentlemen Commiss^rs have, in Defi-

ance of all known rules, resolved that an Officer can Discharge but one duty in a day, and have paid him only as a Lieutenant. Impowered by your Honor's orders, and in Compliance with the Exigencies of the Services, I hir'd a number of Battoe men at 2--6 ℔ day, as will appear by the return made herewith to your Honor, and upon demanding from the Paymaster General money for the Payment of the respective Ballances due to them, was surprized to find that the Commiss^y had by their Instructions restrain^s him from Paying any incidental Charges whatever, as thinking them properly Cognizable only by themselves.

'Tis extremely Cruel, S^r, and unjust to the last degree That men who chearfully ventured their lives in the most dangerous and Fatiguing services of their Country, who have numerous Families dependant on their Labour, and who have many of them while they were engaged in that Service, suffer'd more from the neglect of their Farms and Crops at home than the Value of their whole pay. In short, whose Affairs are ruined by the Services done their Country should some of them receive no Pay at all for those Services, if this is the case I plainly perceive that all Service is at an end, and foresee that whoever has the Command of this Garrison will inevitably be Obliged to Abandon his Post very shortly for want of a Suply of Provisions. Your Hon^r will not be surprized to hear that in a Government where its Servants are so well rewarded I have but one Team of Draught Horses, which, according to the Commissioners remark, can but do the Business of one Team in a day from whence you will easily Judge that the Works must proceed very slowly and the Expence in the end be proportionable.

Permit me, S^r, in the most grateful manner to thank your Hon^r For the Favour conferred on me and on the Regiment under my Command which I am sensible were meant as well in Friendship to the Province as myself. I have executed the trust Reposed in me wth all Possible Fidelty and to the best of my Knowledge, but my endeavours as well as those of every other Officer in the Service have met with so ungenerous a Return so contracted a Reward that we can no longer serve with any Pleasure on such terms. And if we are not for the Future to receive from your Hon^r our Orders, our Supplys and our Pay beg Leave unanimously to resign on the Twentieth of August next, & will abandon the Post accordingly at that time, in which Case I would recommend it to the Gentlemen Commissioners to take great Care to prevent that universal Desertion of the men which will otherwise certainly ensue.

Thus much I thought it necessary to say in my own Vindication, and I am besides by the rest of the Gentlemen requested to add, that they have still further cause of Complaint from a Quarter where they little expected it, & are Conscious to themselves they never deserved it, esteeming much lighter their Treatment from the other Gentlemen Commissioners in regard to their Pay than the ungenerous Reflections of one of those Gentlemen on the Conduct of

an Expedition which it too plainly appears it was never his Study to Promote, and will Appeal to their Country & to your Honor for ye Justice of their Conduct in the present Step.

'Tis wth utmost concern & Reluctance that the Gentlemen of this Regiment see themselves reduced to the necessity of this Declaration and assure your Hon^r that nothing but such a Continued series of Discouragements could have ever extorted it from those who hope that they have not used any Expressions inconsistent wth that high Regard they have for your Honor, and beg leave with me to Subscribe themselves,

Your Honor's

Most obedient humble Servant,

WILL'M CLAPHAM,
JAMES BURD.

THOMAS LLOYD,
JOSEPH SHIPPEN, jr.,
PATR'K WORK,
ELISHA SALTAR,
DAVID JAMESON,
NATHANIEL MILES.

Indorsed.

July 18th, 1756. Wm. Clapham & James Burd.

SELECTMEN OF BOSTON TO GOV. M, 1756.

Boston, July 29, 1756.

Sir,

As provisions are much wanted in this Town, and as supplies are withheld from us by the restraint laid on the exportation of Flour from Philadelphia, we take the liberty of applying to your Honor to desire you would be pleased to permitt the Brig Prince Geo., Caleb Prince, Master, wth one or two more Vessels wch we are informed are loaded with Flour, & wait only your Honors permission to depart to sail for this Port wth their Cargo's. As this will be a benefit to his Majesty's Subjects here, and no detriment to ye General Cause of the Colonies, we hope your Honor will grant us this Favour, & thereby Oblige,

Your Honors most Humb. Servt.

SAML. GRANT,
JNO. JACKSON,
THOMAS CUSHING,
JOHN SCOLLAY,
THOS. HILL.
Selectmen of Boston.

His Honor Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr.

Direction.

To the Hon. Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Lieutenant Gov. of Pennsylvania, in Philadelphia.

Indorsed,

Boston, July 19th, 1756. That Gov. Morris would suffer some Vessels to sail for that Port with Flower.

Petition of Merchants &c., of Philada. to Gov. Morris, 1756.

To the Hon. Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor, & Commander in chief, in & over, The Province of Pennsylvania, & Counties of Newcastle, Kent, & Sussex.

The Humble Petition of the Merchants, Owners, & Masters of Vessels, Trading to his Majesty's Islands & Colonies in the West Indies, &c.

Sheweth.

That your petitioners, presuming that the Embargo laid here, the 20th day of May, on all Vessels Loaded with provisions, for the places above mention'd, wou'd terminate at the Expiration of the Time, that an Embargo was also Laid on, by the Government of Newcastle, Kent, & Sussex, Vizt. on the Seventh of this Instant, July; Have, in Consequence thereof, Loaded their Several Vessels, as usual in Time of free Trade. And finding, upon Application at the Custom house, for the necessary Clearances, &c., That Your Honor had thought proper, (on your going to meet the Lower County Assembly, whom you had Call'd together,) to Leave Instructions with the Collector here, not to Clear, or permit any Vessels to Sail, that were Loaded with provisions; And, as we since Learn, that the Government of Newcastle, Kent, & Sussex, have extended their Embargo 'till the Twentieth Instant; And Conditionally, so much longer, as shall be thought necessary by this Government. We take the Liberty, humbly, to Represent to your Honor, the great Loss that will be Sustain'd! Not only by the proprietors of the provisions on board, which your Honor need not be inform'd are of a perishable Nature, especially at this Season of the Year, But, will also be severely Felt by the Trading part of this Province, in case the Embargo shd. be continued Longer than the said Twentieth Instant! As a general Stagnation of all Business must Ensue, Besides the actual

Loss of so much Money, & the Circulation thereof, to this Province; as the amount of the said provisions, as well as the particular Loss to the present proprietors of them, & of the Vessels that are so laden, which are Lying here, at a great Expence to the Owners, many of whom are young Tradesmen, & will scarce be able to Support such heavy Losses. But, Notwithstanding the disadvantages above Recited, We wou'd not have presum'd to have Troubled your Honor with a petition of this Nature, Were we fully assur'd that it was absolutely Necessary for his Majesty's Service, that the Embargo sho^d. be Continued; And, That this Province was upon an equal footing in such Cases, with the other Colonies to the Northward & Southward of us. But, as to the former, We humbly Conceive that a Continuance of the Embargo at present, will rather Tend to the distress of his Majesty's Subjects in the West Indies, Whom we apprehend, Must, by this Time, be in want of Provisions. And as there is the highest probability That War is Proclaim'd at home, Our Vessels will Consequently Run a much greater Risque of being taken, when the Enemies Privateers are abroad, Than if they were permitted to Sail, while they have a prospect of getting out, before the French Privateers Invest those Seas. And as to the Latter, it is well known that Boston has little or no Provisions to Export, except Fish, which is not prohibited in their Embargo, altho' it is the Staple Commodity of the place. And, with regard to New York, Great part of their provisions is taken off by the Army, Besides the Liberty Granted to Vessels trading to the Bay, who are allow'd a Certain Quantity. But a still greater disadvantage to this Province is, that if the Embargo is Continued here, till it is Certainly known to be taken off at New York; by that Time, our Vessels can get clear'd afterwards, & reach the Capes; Those from New York will probably have made half their passage, & Consequently take the best of the Markets from us. And as to the Southern Colonies, Virginia & Maryland, have no Embargo as yet. So That Pennsylvania is the only Province that Suffers by the Embargo, in its full Extent; and if Continued as Long as the policy of the Northern Colonies shall find it their Interests to do it, Must in Time, be the utter Ruin of the Trade of this Province. Therefore, We humbly hope your Honor will Take into Consideration, Our present distress'd Situation, so as to permit Those Vessels at least, that are already Laden to Depart; We promising on our parts, That we will not only Take all the necessary precautions in our Power, to Prevent the Enemies of our Sovereign & his Liege Subjects, from getting any of the said provisions into their possession. But will also make the Strongest Remonstrances to our Correspondents in the West Indies, to induce them to do the Same. Not doubting from Your Honors benevolent & humane disposition, but you will apply such further Remedies, as the good of this Province & the preservation of its Trade, in the present Emergency Requires. In the full hopes of which, We

humbly Rely on your Honors known Wisdom & Prudence for Redress. And, your Petitioners, as in Duty bound, will ever Pray, &c.

Reese Merideth,
Saml. Neave,
Kearny & Gilbert,
Alex. Lunan,
Jas. Harvey,
Charles & Alex. Stedman,
Hen. Harrison,
Walter Shee,
Daniel Curry,
Joseph Greenway,
Nathaniel Donnell,
Wm. Freeman,
Moses Rankin,
Anthony Stocker,
Thos. McJanett, & Co.,
Magnus Watson,
Archd. Stewart,
Wm. Corry,
Rich. Smith.
Saml. Greene,
Robt. Wall,
Thomas Riche,
Sam. Purviance,
Hen. All. McDougal,
James McCulloch,
Pat. Choke,
John Darke,

Indorsed,

Petition from sundry merchants, That the Embargo might be taken off, and their Vessels permitted to go. Received July 19, 1756. Told the petitioners the reasons of the Embargo, that they loaded their vessels in their own wrong, as I had given out that the Embargo would be continued, & had they applied to me, they would have been informed of it as others that applied were.

Gov. Morris to Gov. Dinwiddie, 1756.

Sir,

Mr. Nelson deliver'd me your Favour of the 28th June, in which was the printed Treaty concluded by your Commissioners with the Nations of the Catawba and Cherokee Indians. The Catawbas are, I believe, our sincere & hearty Friends, and will perform their Engagements if not involv'd in a War with the Cherokees. I suspect the Shawonese, who are a subtale & politick Nation, have employ'd their Artifices with the Cherokees & brought about this difference you mention, the better to carry their own Points against us. I have been inform'd by Mr. Croghan that some of the upper Cherokees had lately been brought to the Ohio by a Party of the Six Nations yt went to war against the Catawbas or some other Southern Nations, and at the Instance of the Shawonese they were placed not far from the Lower Shawonese Town, and are now closely connected wth the Shawonese.

Several Prisoners who have made their Escape from Kittannin & other places, say expressly that the Delawares expect to be join'd by the Cherokees, having sent Messengers to them in the Winter, & recieved promises from them.

* See Colon. Rec. Vol. VII. p. 208.

Sr Wm. Littleton will no doubt do every thing he can to engage the Southern Indians, and as he is likely to render himselfe agreable to the other Branches of the Legislature & to ye Body of the people, he will I hope have good Success in bringing them to act on the offensive against the French, both in conjunntion wth our Armies and in separate Parties.

The only thing yt can entirely be depended upon as a certain Proof of the sincere attachment of the Indians, is when they consent to go in Scalping Parties against the Enemy, and will fall upon the Soldiers of their Forts as they pass & repass, in the same manner the French Indians are got to act against us, till those who profess Friendship for us & take our Presents shall do this, they are not hearty in our Interest, but lye by to see the Events of every year, & will take their Measures accordingly.

I am clear with you in Opinion that an Expedition ought to have been carried on by the three Provinces at least agt the Indian Towns on the Ohio, if not agt Fort Duquesne, & that wr successful or no it wou'd have hinder'd the French and ye Indians from strengthening themselves in other places, but when it comes to be considered yt in this Province & in Maryland the Sums requisite for ye Defence of the Frontiers were with difficulty raised, & yt the differences wch occasion'd this Difficulty are still kept up, & popular Clamor rather encreasing than otherwise in both Colonies, an Union is not to be expected, nor that Supplys sufficient for such an Expedition will be raised out of a Joint Stock.

Messengers return'd last night, & have brought wth them ye Delaware King & 40 others* wth whom I hope to establish an Accommodation and break ye Confederacy. I will send you ye Minutes of ye Treaty, wch will I hope be final & prove an alteration much to ye general advantage.

I believe if the New Governor & Assembly shall agree about ye Mode of taxing the Proprietary Settlers, yt they may be brought to give handsomely for an Expedition agt ye Ohio, and if the German Officers raise their four Battalions there may be spared a large Body of regulars to support the Provincial forces.

A Fort is now building at Shamokin by Coll. Clapham, who has 500 Men with him, & I am in hopes that ye Sasquahannah Indians who are coming over to us will take refuge there, & as they can be provided wth all necessaries they may thereby be kept true to us, & perhaps engaged to fight agt our Enemies. I have for some time been in treaty wth the Chiefs of the Shawonese & Delawares on ye Sasquahannah.

I expect a Successor every day, Mr. Pownal it seems made Objections to coming under Prop'ry Instructions, tho' they were previously shewn to & approved by His Nation, Lord Halifax, Mr. Fox & Lord Loudon and as Mr. Penn, nor no person whatever in his Station

* See Col. Rec. Vol. VII. p. 204.

wou'd leave a Deputy at large, the matter soon ended as to Mr. Pownal, & the Duke of Cumberland was so good as to recommend Mr. Denny, a Gentleman of the Army, not known to any here, but said to be of good character & polite Address.

The state of the Army & the Politicks at New York, Mr. Nelson seems well acquainted wth, & to him I can refer you for what is public.

General Shirley is hastening to England on the Invitation of the Ministry, who have paid him many just Complements, & express an hearty regard for him, & say they will stand in need of his Councils and Advice, & therefore think it necessary he shou'd hasten to England to be ready to assist them in their ffuture Consultations on ye affairs of America.

Indorsed,

Dft. Governor Morris to Govr. Dinwiddie, 20 July, 1756.

Timothy Horsfield to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Bethlehem, July 21, 1756.

May it Please Your Honour,

The Indians from whome the Inclosed Information Come, Stopt a day or two here in their Way to Easton, and Jo Peeby Still Living here, being well acquainted with them, had much discorse with them, and Communicated the contents to one of Our Brethren from whome I have it.

As I conceive it contains Matters of great Importance, I therefore Send it Immeadietly to Your Honour. But hearing to-day from several People that your Honour was gone a Journey in the Country, Was Doubtfull this might not Come soon to hand, have Therefore this morning Sent an Express with a Coppy of this Information to the Governor of New York.

I am your Honour's

Most Obedt Humble Servt,

TIMO. HORSFIELD.

Directed,

To the Honourable Robt. Hunter Morris, Esquire, Governour of Pensylvania.

Indorsed,

21 July, 1756, Horsfield with Indian Intelligence.

Arch'd Kennedy to Gov. Morris, 1756.

New York, July 22d, 1756.

Sir,

By his Excellency, Sir Charles Hardy's orders, who left this place for Albany on the 11th Instant, I am directed to transmit the enclosed in hopes it may induce our Neighbours to enter into the like measures so essentially necessary at this time for the publick Service.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble Servant,
ARCH'D KENNEDY.

Governor Morris.

Indorsed.—July 22d, 1756, Arch'd Kennedy.

Gov. Morris to Wm. Parsons, 1756.

Sir,

Since Mr. Peter's letter to you, I have found it necessary to change the place of treating with the Indians, from Easton to Bethlehem, which by this Express I notifie to Mr. Spangenberg, and if you have made any Provision of Victuals or Liquors, you will transport them to Bethlehem, with such Live Stock as you can conveniently get together, and any expence you have been at in consequence of my former orders shall be repaid.

I have given orders to Coll. Weiser to call together such detachments of the several Companys on the frontiers, as could safely be spared, to attend this meeting of the Indians, where it is quite necessary to have a good number of troops, but as Collo. Weisers distance may occasion his orders being too late, I think it necessary that you should, on this occasion, draw together such force from the several Garrisons near Bethlehem, as they can safely spare, under the command of the gentleman like officers, taking care in the orders you send, in pursuance of this letter, to direct that in case they have recieved Coll. Weisers orders, they are to obey them as to the numbers to be detached, and the officers to command them; But you are to signifie to them, that it is my order that they march to Bethlehem instead of Easton.

You are to move to Bethlehem with the town guard of Easton immediately upon the receipt of this, where you are to escort Tedecuscung, and the other Indians, who I am informed are now at Easton; and you are to deliver, in my name, the Inclosed Message to

the King in answer to his, and notifying Bethlehem to be the place of meeting.

Indorsed.

Draft to Major Parsons, at Easton, July 22, 1756.

Gov. Morris to Rev. Mr. Spangenberg, 1756.

Philad^a, 22 July, 1756.

Sir,

I sent an Express this Morning to Major Parsons, to acquaint him that I should set out to morrow morning for Easton, in order to treat with Teedyuscung, and the Indians from Diahoga, but on communicating this to the Council, many Reasons were offered, which convinced me that Easton will by no means be a proper place, I therefore find myself laid under the necessity of countermanding my orders to M^r. Parsons, and of appointing the Treaty to be held at Bethlehem, and therefore request the favour of you and the Brethren to afford me and my Attendance what Accommodations are in your power, which I do not mean shall be attended wth any expence to you.

The good work y^t calls me to Bethlehem at this time, which I am very sensible you desire most ardently to see brought to an happy Issue, will plead my Excuse for the Trouble it will give the Brethren.

I propose to set out to morrow and to reach you as soon as possible, wch I imagine will hardly be before Saturday morning.

I have ordered Major Parsons to move to Bethlehem wth the Indians, under an escort of Troops, and shoud they come before me, I must desire you will give them a good Reception.

Indorsed.

Draft to the Rev^d M^r. Spangenberg, at Bethlehem.
July 22, 1756.

Gov. Morris to Gen. Shirley, 1756.

July 22nd, 1756.

Dear Sir,

I had not time to write you by the last post, and now acknowledge the receipt of your two letters, that by the former post I laid before the Assembly, and in several private conversations with some of the members have pointed out your services to the Continent, both before & since they had that letter, which I thought would

have better effects than any thing I could say in a publick message, and what they do will have the more weight, coming unasked and of their own accord. I hear they intend to give you thanks for your services in some shape or other, but have not yet learnt the manner.

The Information I can give Ld Louden will in great measure be supplyd by M^r. F——, who waits at New York on purpose, and being connected with Pownal, will have all the credit he can desire. I know not what part Ld Louden may act, but to me it seems very impolitick to countenance, in any shape, a man that has in so remarkable a manner obstructed the Kings affairs, and gone such lengths to embody the Germans here against the Crown, by making them believe there was a fixd design to enslave and reduce them to a state of vasselage, worse than what they fled from in their own Country. The Post office, I believe, have given him to understand that his condnct is disapproved of, which in my mind was paying him too high a Complim^t, and I suppose he and P—— are to contrive some way of reinstating him in their favour, and possibly the Earl may be drawn into the measure.

I intended setting off at this day to pay my compliments to you, But some Messengers Employ'd by me to the Indians upon the Sasquahana are returned, and have brought with them as far as Bethlehem the King of the Delawares, and a great number of his nation who are ready to enter into their former alliance with us, and I am under a necessity of going to meet them before I do any thing else, as so favourable a disposition in those people should not be neglected; from the treaty I shall proceed to New York, as Easton, the place of meeting, is about fifty mile on my way, and upon notice of Ld Loudens arrival I intend to leave the treaty to Commissioners, and set off immediately in about six hours. I take Horse for Easton.*

Indorsed.

D^f to General Shirley. July 22nd, 1756.

JAMES YOUNG TO ———— ————, 1756.

Carlisle, 22^d July, 1756.

Sir:

By the Winchester Post we have Advice that the 20th Inst., in the morning, a party of Indians Surpriz'd two of Capt. Steels men as they were Guarding some Reapers, 4 miles on this side M'kedowels mill; they killd and scalp'd one, the other they carried off, the Reapers made their Escape; also, that one of the Soldiers from M'edowels Mill that went with two Women to the Spring for some

* See the Minutes of the Council at Easton, in Colon. Rec., Vol. VII., pp. 204–220.

water is missing, the Women got in safe to the fort, and allmost at the same time a man and a woman were scalp'd, a few miles on the other side of the mill. And Yesterday morning, Eight Indians came to the house of Jacob Peeble, near the great Spring and M'ckluers Gapp, about 10 miles from this place, on this side the mountain, they Killed an Old Woman and carried off two Children, and an old man is missing; they pursued a boy who was on horse back a long way, but he Escap'd; their were some people Reaping at a small Distance from the house, but knew nothing of what was doing at home, for the Indians did not fire a Gun, they carried off all the Clothes and bedding that was in the house; a party went from this town to bury the Dead, and are return'd again, they inform me that the Country People are all leaving their houses to come down, as there is great reason to fear many more Indians will soon be among them. The money which the Commissioners were to send is not yet Come, nor is Coll^o. Armstrong, and I am at a loss what to do when it does Come, as no doubt there are Several parties of Indians within our Forts, and we have only a small Party of men in Each Fort, the others being all scatter'd in small parties, at a Considerable distance from Each other, to Protect the Country People at Harvest; So it will be impossible to Collect the men together to Muster them without greatly Distressing the Country People, and Disapoint them of Reaping their Grain, for they will all leave it if the men are taken from them, neither can I be Suplyed with proper Escorts from the Forts without leaving them Empty; I shall, therefor, be Glad to have your Honors further Orders Whither I shall proceed in the best manner I can, or when the money Comes to leave it in Charge of Coll^o. Armstrong or M^r. John Smith, with Orders to pay the Several Cap^tns, or any of their Officers, as an opportunity may offer, any sum that will not Exceed the pay for their respective Companys, to the 1st of July, ab^t £250 for Each Comp^y, more or less, according as their accounts stands which I have with me, and I may Muster the men and settle their acc^ts the next time I come up, when the Harvest will be over.

Cap^tn Potter was here yesterday, I paid him £100 of the money I had left from Col^l Claphams Reg^t, in Case I should not get up to him.

Leiu^nt Callender came here last night with 20 of his men, he left 11 in Shermans Valley to protect the Reapers; he with Cap^tn Armstrong and 40 men, have been on a Scout as far as Shamokin, from thence they went 50 miles due West, and then down to Patersons Fort, but saw no Enemy, he informs me that last Monday two Indian Squas that were at Fort Sherley went off with one of our men, a fellow that had formerly been an Indian trader; the Squas are the Daughters of the Indian half king that was kill'd last winter. I fear that fellow may be of bad Consequence to us, as he knows our Situation well. I have Endeavourd to put this Large Fort in the Best poster of Defence I can, but am sorry to say the People of this town can-

not be prevaild on to do any thing for their own safety. I proposed to them to Associate and to place a Picq[t] Guard at a small Distance from the Fort to prevent being Surpriz'd, but to no purpose; they say they will guard when there is Danger, tho' the Enemy is now Committing murder but ten miles from them; They seem to be lulld into Fatal Security, A strange infatuation which seems to prevail throughout this Province.

I am with great Respect,
Sir,
Your most Obedient,
& most Humble Serv[t].
JAS. YOUNG.

P. S. The post not being come as I expected, I have sent this by a Soldier of the Carlisle Comp[s] Express. 2 a Clock, P. M., Coll[t] Armstrong is just now come to town.

Indorsed.
Ja[s]. Young. 22[d] July, 1756.

Lord Loudoun to Gov. Morris, 1756.

New York, 23[d] July, 1756.

Sir:

His Majesty having been graciously pleased to Appoint me, by His Commission under the Great Seal, to be General and Commander in Chief of all His Forces in North America, I take this first Opportunity to Acquaint You of my Arrival this morning; As I have been unfortunately so long detain'd in my passage, I find it indispensibly necessary that I go up immediately to the Army, I must proceed accordingly. I herewith send Your honor the Letters of M[r]. Fox, His Majesty's Secretary of State, and of the Earl of Halifax, His Majestys first Lord Commissioner of the Board of Trade, I do from Your Zeal and Attachment to His Majesty's Service, and from the Loyalty and good dispositions of your People, depend upon all Assistance that the State and Circumstances of your Province is able to give me.

I will beg Your Honor to Assure the good People of Your Province, that they may depend upon my Protection and my utmost Care, to avoid and remove (as far as the Circumstances of a Country become the Seat of War will admit) every thing, that may any way burthen or Hurt the Interest of any Individual.

I shall on all occasions, and in every thing relative to the Service and Interest of the Colonies, communicate with your Honor, and beg at all times to be favor'd from you with all matters of Ad-

vice and Intelligence relative to the same, and shall impatiently expect the Returns you are directed to send me.

I beg to acknowledge the favor of Your Honors Letter; I shall give my best Attention to those Services in particular, that you have been so good to lay before me, as soon as I can be informed what the General Service requires, and what the State of His Majesty's Arms will enable me to do.

I beg you to be assured, that I am with the highest respect,

Sir,

Your Honor's

Most Obedient and most

Humble Servant,

LOUDOUN.

The Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr.

Indorsed.

Ld Loudoun, 23^d July, 1756.

Read in Council, at Easton, 30th July, 1756.

JOHN ARMSTRONG TO GOV. MORRIS, 1756.

Carlisle, 23^d July, 1756.

Honoured Sir:

Being but just got home, I am unable to furnish your Hon^r with the Occurrences of these two days past, in which time the Indians have began to take their advantage of the Harvast Season. Seven people on this side the Kittatinney Hills being Kill'd and missing within this County, and two on the South Side of the Temporary line; the Enemy have not yet attack'd any of the people over the Hills, but pass'd them by, probably on acc^t of finding them better guarded and dispos'd of. As soon as Capt. Young concludes whether to Cross the Hills or not, I shall Visit the Out guard, and endeavour to keep the people in larger Company than they are. Wheat Harvest is more than half done.

I shall send to Harris's for the Saddles and Chains, and in my next write the Commissioners of the Powder last sent here, the advantage and necessity of Streighting the New Arms, &c.

I am, Sir,

Your Honours

most Obedient

Humble Servt,

JOHN ARMSTRONG.

To the Honble Robt. Hunter Morris.

The Indians are not in large parties, but distributed in different places of Frontier.

Directed.

To the Honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania, Philad^{a}.

Carl. Dwt. 3, gr8.

Indorsed.

John Armstrong, July 23^{d}, 1756.

Capt. John Van Etten to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Fort Hyndshaw, July 24th, 1756.

May It Please your Honour:

After my humble Service to you I take the Boldness To Inform your Honour that we are all In good health Here in the Fort. I Likewise think It my Duty to Inform your Honour of What has Happened the 22^{d} of this Instant. In this township, about fifteen miles above our Fort, I sent a Sergeant with four men up there to guard some farmers in their Harvest, and as they Came to the field some of the Company was Behind and they Hollowed to one another, and after the second Hollow there was an Indian Hollowed att some Distance Towards the Mountain and Enquired for the Captain. His Brother answered I am the man, then He s^{d} Come you to us, and accordingly He did; the Indian asked Him if he was alone, He said yes, But made a sign for Sergeant Cole and the Company To Stay Back. Then Johannis Vannetten desired the Indian to Come to Him, But the Indian answered Him and said Come you more up the mountain, and He did and they met and Shook Hands Together, then Vannetten asked Him what he wanted, He s^{d} to Know if they were Busy to work in their Harvest and How it went on, then Vannetten asked Him to go down with him to the House, But he s^{d} No, for the Indians, s^{d} he, Have done so much mischief Here Last Winter that He was afraid to Come down, then Vannetten said to Him if you are a friend you Need Not Be afraid, for you shall Not Be Hurt, But He answered He would not Come In But would Return that Day again to Wigwamonck, then Vannetten asked Him if He would drink a Dram with Him, and He s^{d} yes and the s^{d} Vannetten sent for the Bottel and drank to Him and asked him from whence He Came, He s^{d} from Wywamonck, Vannetten told Him He Lyed, then He Confessed He Came from Teogo, then Vannetten asked Him how many Prisoners was there, He s^{d} four had been there, But was gone, then Vannetten told him to Call the other two Indians to Come to Him if you are friends and you shall Not Be Hurt; He

did so, Whereupon the young Indian Came, But the other would Not, then Vannetten talked to Him about the four that was murdered the week before on Minisinks Road, But when he talked to him about that He was for going away and Kept himself well guarded with His gun While He was surrounded, then they agreed that Vannetten should go with the young Indian and Bring in the other Indian, and as they was gone about a Hundred yards from the Company saith Vannetten Call to the other Indian, He s^d He would and Looked Back and Run of, Whereupon Vannetten fired upon Him, But His gun not going fair of thought By His Cauling That only the Swan shot Hit Him, the other hearing the gun forst himself through the Company and Run of, Whereupon they fired Nine guns upon him and Killed Him and took of his Scalp. So Having No more to Write to your Honour I Subscribe my Self your obedient Servant To Command,

CAPT. JOHN VAN ETTEN.

Directed.

To The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris,
Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Pennsilvania.
With Care & Speed.

Indorsed.

[Letter of John Van Etten, Captain at Hyndshaw's Fort, dated 24 July, 1756, Informing of the Garrison's killing an Indian ye 22^d. Rece'd on Thursday morning ye 29th July. Read in Council ye 29th July.

Present:

THE GOVERNOR, MR. PETERS,
MR. LOGAN, MR. MIFFLIN,
MR. CHEW.

P. M. This affair was communicated to Teedyuscung & the Indians after dinner. He said it would make no alteration in the publick measures. He charged ye Indians not to come among ye Inhabitants, if they did & should be killed they would disregard it, &c]

REPLY OF TEEDYUSCUNG, 1756.

Easton, July 24, 1756, A. M.

Present Nicholas Scull, Esquire, & Capt. Joseph Insley:

This morning I delivered the Governor's Message of the 22^d to King Teedyuscung, Who return'd the following answer:

Brother, I am very glad to hear from you. At the Distance of 400 miles from hence I received your Invitation to come and make peace. I understood that you had laid a Junk of Fire here at Easton that I might come and smoke my Pipe by it. Brother, since

* See Col. Rec. Vol. VII., p. 212.

you sent that Message I am come and will stay here, And I can't understand what you mean by sending me about from place to place like a Child.*

Gave a String of Wampum.

Indorsed.

24 July, 1756. Answer of Teedyuscung to Message altering the Place of Treaty, 24 July, 1756.

Minutes of Indian Conferences held at Easton, in July, 1756.†

At a Council held at Easton, the 25th Day of July,‡ 1756.

PRESENT.

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esquire, Lieut. Governor.

William Logan, Benjamin Chew, } Esqr's.
Richard Peters, John Mifflin, }

On the Governor's arrival yesterday, the Secretary was sent to Teedyuscung, with his Honour's Compliments to enquire after his Health, and assure him of his Protection and good Reception, and this morning Teedyuscung waited on the Governor, and returned him his compliments.

Mr. Horsfield, one of the Justices of the Peace for the County of Northampton, sent the Governor the following Intelligence, which was given him by Jo. Peepy, a Jersey Indian, who said it was related to him by Teedyuscung, Tehisquahunk, and Betschihillewi, at Bethlehem, in their way to Easton. "That they had been three or "four weeks ago amongst the French at the Fort Niagara; where "the French made exceeding much of them, and were very open "and free with them. One of the Chief Officers said, striking on

* There is no notice of this Letter on the proceedings at Easton of this date. See Col. Rec. Vol. VII., p. 264.

† These are found in a document of 31 pages, (fastened together) partly in a fair hand, & partly rough draught of minutes, as above, terminated by a certificate of Conrad Weiser, that he has "carefully perused the foregoing Minutes, & do find them to give a true account of what passed *between the Gov. and the Indians* in my presence." The first four minutes appear to be the transactions of the Council alone, but are not printed in Colon. Records, where will be found one dated 24 July, not contained in this document. The minutes of Council of 29 & 30th July, are now printed (it is believed) for the first time.

‡ See Colon. Records, Vol. VII, p. 204, for a minute dated the 24 July, 1756.

"his Breast, I am a Man: look at me, (stretching out his arm) my "Arm is strong; I have Thousands more like me. As to Provi- "sions, the French had Bread in tolerable Plenty, but their Meat "was very scarce, and what little they had was quite spoiled. They "told them they expected a supply of Provisions every Day.

"Teedyuscung and Company, requesting some Goods &c. of them, "the French Officer answered that he would willingly help them to "every thing they wanted, but at present, Goods were scarce with "them. He said they expected Four large Ships from their Mother "Country, and if they would come again in two months Time, they "should have every thing plenty, even as much as their Eyes could "see, or their Hearts desire. The French Captain said, I will now "shew you what Works we have made to destroy our Enemies, and "then took them into a Cellar, and from thence into a place under "Ground, where lay many Barrels of Gun Powder. The Indians "described it as going sometimes this way, then again another way, "like a Worm Fence, and as far as they could learn, the mine went "at least half a Mile from the Fort, and near it there were yet more "such Places under Ground filled with Barrels of Gunpowder, and "farther, when the Indians came away, they talked one to another, "and concluded the Mine lead the way which the English would "come, if they attacked the Fort. All round it for the Distance of "near a Quarter of a Mile, the Ground was quite clean and free, "every thing being cleared out of the way; and from the Fort was "a fine Road leading to the water (I suppose the Lake Ontario) "made exceeding regular, under which the Indians thought the Mine "conducted.

"The Fort is situate in a Fork, built very strong, with a deep "Ditch or Moat around it. The Pallisades are of large Trees, and "within them another Row of Pallisades, and then the Buildings. "When Teedyuscung and Company had been two or three Days at "Fort Niagara, the French Captain took a large Letter and laid it "open before them, desiring their attention, and saying it came from "the King of England to the French, and was to this Effect. 'Let "us the English, and you the French consider what we are about. "We, the English, live on one side, and you, the French, live on "the other Side, and we have all the Indians in the midst of us; "let us join together, at a certain Time, and squeeze all the Indians "to Death at once, and then we will divide the Country betwixt us." "You can see plainly by this, continued the French Captain, what "People the English are, and what you are to expect from their "Hands."

As near as I could learn, said Teedyuscung, the number of People at Niagara, was three Hundred French, and two Hundred English; one Hundred of the English are Prisoners, kept very close, not having Liberty to speak to any Indian, the other Hundred are Indian Traders who used to frequent Allegheny or Ohio, have now joined the French, enjoy their full Liberty, and walk about as Gen-

tlemen. When these Indians asked the French Captain for Powder and Lead, they said we have none now to spare, else we would give you. The Powder you saw under Ground we cant take; for it must be kept there for the use we have told you of. They gave Teedyuscung a fine dark brown Cloath Coat laced with Gold which he now wears.

The French chiefly depend on the Help of the Twightwees & Tachquas, who some time since were in the English Interest, but afterwards were persuaded to leave the English and to join the French. But when Teedyuscung was at Niagara, there came an Indian from the Six Nations, desiring them by a large Belt, not to meddle in the War, neither to join the French nor the English, but if they cant help meddling, to wait at least four Months before they do any thing to assist the French. The Twightwees accepted this Belt, and sent word in answer, that they would do so, signifying that they had been blind this Winter past and this last Summer till now, but they open now their eyes, and will follow the Direction of the Six Nations therein as children.

These Nations, he added, live near Fort Niagara; the Belt, however, was not delivered them at Niagara, but in a place some Miles off, the French knowing nothing of it.

At a Council held at Easton, Monday, the Twenty-sixth Day of July, 1756.

PRESENT.

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

William Logan,	Benjamin Chew,	Esquires.
Richard Peters,	John Mifflin,	

Major Parsons delivered to the Governor his Diary, in which he had kept an account of Teedyuscung's Behaviour since his coming to Easton, with what passed at the several Conversations between them, and being read, the following Account was extracted from it, vizt.

The King and his wild Company were perpetually drunk, very much on the Gascoon, and at times abusive to the Inhabitants, for they all spoke English more or less. The King was full of himself, saying frequently, that which Side soever he took must stand, and the other fall; repeating it with Insolence, that he came from the French, who had pressed him much to join them against the English, that now he was in the Middle between the French and English,

quite disengaged from both Sides, and whether he joined with the English or French, he would publish it aloud to the World, that all Nations might know it; at other Times he declared he did not come to the English for the sake of what they would give him, but to establish an everlasting Peace and Friendship with them, which, if they would accept of, they should find him a true and useful Friend. That he was born among the English some where near Trenton, and is near Fifty years old. He is a lusty, raw bon'd Man, haughty, and very desireous of Respect and Command; he can drink three Quarts or a Gallon of Rum a Day, without being drunk; he was the Man that persuaded the Delawares to go over to the French, and then to attack our Frontiers, and he, and these with him, have been concerned in the mischief done to the Inhabitants of Northampton County. Some of the Indians said, that between Forty and Fifty of their People came to Diahogo, from one of the Lakes, about the time they set out, in order to fall upon our Inhabitants; and addressed Teedyuscung to head them, but he told them he was going to the Governor of Pennsylvania to treat with him, concerning a Peace, which the Mohocks had advised him to do, and therefore he ordered them to sit still till he came back again to them. The Towns People observed that the Shirts which the Indian Women had on were made of Dutch Table Cloaths, which, it is supposed they took from the People they murdered on our Frontiers. The King, in one of his conversations, said, only two Hundred French, and about Eighty Indians were at the Lake, where most of the English "are, and that he could bring most or all of them off." The Governor invited Teedyuscung and the Indians to dine with him, but before Dinner, the King with some of them came to the Governor, and made the Governor four Speeches, giving four Strings of Wampum after the Indian manner; one to brush Thorns from the Governors Legs, another to Rub the Dust out of his Eyes, to help him to see clearly, another to open his Ears, to enable him to hear them patiently, and the Fourth to clear his Throat, that he might speak plainly. Then Teedyuscung entered upon a rambling Conversation, saying, that he was made King by Ten Nations. Being asked what ten Nations, he answered, the united Six nations; Mohocks, Onondagoes, Oneidas, Senecas, Cyugas, and Tuscaroras, and Four others, Delawares, Shawanees, Mohickons and Munsies, who would all ratify what he should do; He carried the Belt of Peace with him, and whoever would might take hold of it. But as to them that refused, the rest would all join together and fall upon them.

All the Indians, in short, would do as he would have them. He was glad to see his brother, the Governor, behave so kindly. He had been told that the English would not receive the Indians, but he now saw otherwise, every thing was right, and to his satisfaction; and then, giving another string, said, he was a great Man, and it might be depended upon, he would say nothing but the Truth, desiring, at the same time, that the Governor might conceal nothing,

but declare all, good and bad, tho' it should be against them, for he came on purpose to hear Words out of his own Mouth. As to what was said by his Messenger, it might all be true, as they believed him to be a faithful and honest Man, but that would not satisfy them, they must hear the Governor himself. Then he gave a String.

The Governor used the same four Cerimonies to Teedyuscung, accompanied with four Strings; assuring him he would in every thing deal sincerely, plainly, and without reserve.

Teedyuscung urged the Governor to begin Business, saying, the Time was precious, and those who sent him would be uneasy, expecting to see him by a certain Day, which was not far off. To which the Governor declared he was ready, and as uneasy to begin Business as he, but he waited for Mr. Weiser, who being of the Council of the Six Nations and the Provincial Interpreter, it was necessary he should be present; at which the King expressed his Satisfaction, said the Governor was in the right, and his Uncles would be better satisfied to have Mr. Weiser present.

The Governor and Indians then went to Dinner, escorted by a Detachment of the first Battalion of the Pennsilvania Regiment; after Dinner, the King expressed great satisfaction with the Governor's Behaviour to him, and in a polite manner acknowledged his mistaken opinion of the Designs of the Government which some People about him had represented, before he set out, to be unfavourable to the Delawares; but he found it the reverse. He frequently said he would open all his soul to the Governor, and tomorrow produce his Authorities, by which it would appear, he did not come of his own Head, but by express Direction of his Uncles, the Six Nations; he did not indeed come to treat, but to look about him, and try what Reception he should meet with, and what would be said to him by this Government of whose sincerity there has been some Doubts; after which, he was ordered by his Uncles to report all he should see and hear, to them. And as by the Kindness already shewn him, his Doubts were removed, and he saw clearly the End would be good, his Uncles and the Delawares would come together and conclude a firm Treaty.*

At a Council held at Easton, Tuesday, the Twenty-seventh Day of July, 1756.

Present:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant-Governor,

WILLIAM LOGAN, BENJAMIN CHEW, } Esquires.
RICHARD PETERS, JOHN MIFFLIN, }

Mr. Weiser coming to Town, the Governor proposed to open the Conferrences, but on his saying he was a Stranger to Teedyuscung

* See Colon. Rec. Vol. VII., p. 205, for another short minute of this date.

and it would take up some time, at least a Day, to be rightly informed of his Temper and Expectations, it was deferred till to-morrow. Captain New Castle came to the Governor, much in Liquor, tho' otherwise a very sober Man, and requested a Council might be called, saying he had something of a particular nature to communicate * * * * with which being obliged he acquainted the Governor that the Delawares had bewitched him and he should dye soon; the Governor would have rallied it off but he grew more serious and desired this Information might be committed to writing & incerted in the Minutes of Council, and sent to the Six Nations, that if any Harm came to him, they might know to whom to impute it, & not charge Others with it. Teedyuscung, he declared, had warned him in a friendly manner, that he would not live long, having overheard two Delawares say they would put an End to his Life by Witchcraft. And whilst he was speaking Teedyuscung mistrusting what New Castle was upon, bolted into the Room, fell into a violent Passion with New Castle, who he supposed had been telling the Governor foolish words, and desired he might not be regarded in any thing he should say on such a foolish subject, exclaiming, He bewitched! the Governor was too wise to hearken to such silly Stories, and then left the Room in as abrupt a manner as he had entered it. After he was gone the Governor endeavoured to shew New Castle that he was in no danger, but he made no Impression. New Castle still urging that Information might be taken down and in Case of his Death be communicated in a special Message to the Six Nations, which was promised; and he then withdrew, to appearance, more composed.*

At a Council held at Easton, Wednesday, the Twenty-eighth Day of July, 1756.

PRESENT:

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esquire, Lieutenant-Governor.

WILLIAM LOGAN, BENJAMIN CHEW, } Esquires.
RICHARD PETERS, JOHN MIFFLIN, }

Mr. Weiser informed the Council that the King and the principle Indians being all yesterday under the Force of Liquor, he had not been favoured with so good an opportunity as he could have wished of making himself acquainted with their History, but in the main, he believed Teedyuscung was well inclined; he talked in high Terms of his own merit; but expressed himself a Friend to this Province. He had yesterday some, tho' but a little, conversation

* This is not printed in Col. Records.

with Captain New Castle who was of Opinion that the Governor should speak first, only giving an Account of the Messages sent by him, which would put it upon Teedyuscung to relate how he came here, and by what authority. Captain New Castle supposed as the Indians at Diahogo gave no answer to the Governor's last Message they had sent it now by Teedyuscung, and if they had and he should deliver it, the Governor would thence form a Judgment of their Temper and know what to propose to them, which was agreed to, and Pumshire sent to Teedyuscung to acquaint him with it and prepare him to speak agreeable thereto. Pumshire returned and said the King was pleased with what the Governor proposed and would prepare himself to speak accordingly. The Governor appointed eleven o'clock for the Indians to meet him in Council.

To the Surprise of every Body Captain New Castle was seized this morning with a violent Pleurisy and thought to be in great danger, but on losing some Blood and taking proper Physick the violence of the Distemper abated and he recovered.*

At a Council held at Easton, Thursday, the twenty-ninth day of July, 1756, P. M.

PRESENT:

The Honourable, the Governor, & same members as before.

This Evening a Deputation from a number of Inhabitants of the City of Philadelphia, of the People called Quakers, now in Town, waited on the Governor in Council & acquainted him, That as the Governor had been pleased in his first Message by Capt New Castle to make a kind mention of them to the Susquehannah Indians as a peaceable People, desirous of becoming Instruments to bring about a Peace between us and the Indians, and they were informed "that "this was kindly taken by them, and that the Indians had expressed "themselves, as if they desired to see some of the Professors of "those peaceable principles here at the Treaty." They had therefore come and prepared a Present, and desired to know of the Governor in what manner it might be delivered. They would be well pleased if it could be given seperately as their private Present. But

* NOTE.—On page 206, Vol. VII., Col. Rec., is printed a short minute of this date.

Here the regular minutes of the Conference with the Indians appear to begin (occasionally interrupted with minutes of business) and are printed in Col. Rec. Vol., VII., p. 207–214. Then follow minutes of two meetings of business, viz: 29th and 30th July, which are not printed in Col. Rec.

this they would submit to the Governor, having no Desire to interfere with the Government, nor to set up a distinct Interest from it. In answer the Governor endeavoured to shew the ill Consequences that might accrue to the publick as well as themselves, considered as a religious Society, by leading the Indians into Notions; That there were among the King's Subjects People who Embraced Different sentiments, either about Religion or Government, and that no Body of Men should Endeavour to represent themselves to the Indians, so as to be Considered in any other Light by them, than the other Inhabitants. After a good deal of mutual Discourse, it was at last agreed That the Present of the Philadelphia Friends should be added to the publick Present & delivered to the Indians by the Governor, who told them the Manner in which he proposed to mention it. For which they thanked him & Expressed themselves to be extremely pleased with the kindness showed them in this application.

At a Council held at Easton, Friday, the Thirtieth Day of July, 1756.

PRESENT:

The Honourable, the Governor, & Same Members as before.

The Governor received by Express from New York a Packett from Lord Hallifax, Lord Louden, and one from the Secretary of State, Enclosing his Majesties Declaration of War, which was immediately published in a very solemn manner. The Council, the Officers of the Royal American Regiment, The Indians, and a large appearance of the Inhabitants of Philadelphia & this County attending the Governor to the place of publication. The First Battalion of the Pennsilvania Regiment was under Arms, and at the Close fired three Vollies.

[Here Enter the Letter from Mr. Fox, dated 17th May, 1756.
Letter from Lord Hallifax, 11th May, 1756.
Letter from Lord Loudon, 23d July, 1756.*]

A Letter was received in Council from Mr. Spangenberg, Enclosing a Conversation with a Delaware Indian, Called Augustus, One of the Indians who attended Capt New Castle to Diahogo, and as it Contains Intelligence of Consequence, it was ordered to be Entered, as follows:

1st. Augustus said, "I have spoke with my Brother Samuel & "Jo. Peepy, both in Diahogo & Bethlehem, and they in confidence "to me, told me how the late War hung together, and in what man-"ner a Peace may effectually be brought about.

2d. "Teedyuscung is the man That has occasioned the late War, "He made an Exceeding large Belt of Wampum and sent it to all

* These three letters will be found on pages 657, 659, 718.

"the Indians living on the West Branch of Susquehannah, Even to "the Cherokee Nation, with the following Words: I am in Exceed-"ing great Danger The English will kill me. Come and help me, &c. "Upon that those Indians that were in Covenant together fell "upon the English and Committed the late murders, &c. When "they heard the Government of Pennsylvania had declared War "against them, Then the Words that Teedyuscung had sent with the "Belt were more & more confirmed to them, which made them "worse and worse. Now Augustus thinks That Teedyuscung is the "only man that can make all these Things good again, for it is the "Custom among the Indians That they don't give Heed to any "other person than he that begun the Affair." He, Augustus, says further, "That Teedyuscung is not able to make things good unless he be helped; for he is poor, and has no more Wampum to send word to the Indians, (Which he has brought into such a Spirit of War) and to say to them, be you good, for the English are good.

Augustus says further: Teedyuscung must have a Belt of Wampum at least five or six feet long and twelve Rows broad, and besides the Belt he must have twelve Strings to send to the several Chiefs to confirm the Words that he sends. Further, When the Governor's Message came to Diahogo, Teedyuscung, It may be, might have acted in favour of the English, But he was so poor That he could not make such a Belt and Strings of Wampum, and without Wampum nothing is to be done amongst the Indians. Therefore Augustus says, If the Governor will do anything effectually, He must help Teedyuscung with Wampum Enough, That he may send to all the Indians, that are in Covenant together, and He thinks the best way would be for the Governor to make the Belt, and as many Strings as are needfull for Teedyuscung to make use of, to obtain Peace. He thinks further That if the Governor should make them a generous Present It would have a very good Effect, and Convince them they are in Earnest to make Peace, and if a solemn Treaty should be held with a great Body of Indians, The Chiefs of many Nations would come and renew their Peace and Friendship with the English. After the Publication of the War, the Governor and Indians went into the Council.†

Indorsed.

Minutes of Indian Conferences held at Easton, in July, 1756.

† See Col. Rec. Vol. VII., p. 214–220.

James Hamilton to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Philadelphia, July, 25th 1756

Sir:

Mr. Turner just now sent me the inclosed letters from Capt Young, which, as a member of Council, and supposing they might contain something necessary to be immediately done here, He had in your absence opened. And desired me to forward them to You by the express that brought them, which I accordingly now do.

On perusing them You will see that Matters are like to run into great confusion at Shamokin, unless You & the Comissioners with You can fall upon Measures to prevent it, which I heartily wish You may be able to do. For my own part I shall readily consent to any thing You & they may agree upon; tho' I confess it is difficult to conceive what can be done without the Aid of Money, of which we have drained the Treasury to the last farthing, of what was immediately in our power. It is true there is near four thousand pounds of the Money given by the proprietor yet to be paid in. And altho' the whole of that, is, I believe owing for other Services, and we are daily called upon for it before it is come to our Hands. Yet if this Service is thought more immediately urgent, and that the others may with less disadvantage be postponed for some time. I shall readily use my endeavours to get a considerable part of it advanced for the proprietors, & shall apply it to any uses You & the Comissrs shall signify to have been agreed upon by You. It will be a miserable thing, if, after all the Trouble & Expense the Province has been at, We should be disappointed of having a Fort at Shamokin, and I fear would have a very ill effect on the minds of the Indians, by discovering to them that We are a people on whose vigour or firmness they can have no reliance. Coll. Clapham's Conduct appears by those letters to be very extraordinary, in many respects. But if he is capable of saying that He will join the Six Nations, whether they side with the English or the French, it certainly deserves your particular Consideration. I am told Captain Lloyd is just set off for Easton to lay the state of the Expedition before You. I should have been glad to have seen him before he went, to have known whether there was any thing in our power to have done for him, that was really necessary to forward the Expedition, and if there had, He might certainly have depended on its being comply'd with, if not very unreasonable, But, altho' he was desired to come & see me before he left the Town, Yet He it seems declined it. I beg you will please to communicate this letter to the Commissrs with you by which they will be fully informed of my Sentiments & be assured I am with much respect,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble

Servant,

JAMES HAMILTON.

Honbl. Governor Morris,

Directed.

For The Hon'ble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr Governor of Pennsylvania, &c,

Indorsed.

Govr. Hamilton. July, 25th 1756.

Gov. Phips to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Boston, July, 26, 1756.

Sir,

The scarcity of Provisions within this Province occasioned by the Embargo in the Southern Colonies obliges me to give you this Trouble, to request that your Honour would grant Liberty for the Shipp'ng of Five hundred and fifty barrells of Flour for this place the supplies already arrived here being far insufficient for the Consumption of this Government and the Garrison belonging to it. I must press this affair, the more as a war is now declared with France, and we may very soon expect the Enemies Privateers on this coast. I am with great respect,

S^r.

Your Honour's most Ob^t humble

Servant.

S. PHIPS.

Honble Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr.

Indorsed.

Governor Phipps. July 26, 1756.

[Read in Council the 11th of August, * 550 Bls. granted Joseph Saunders, Samuel Smith & Son, Joshua Howell. Permit dated 12th August 1756.]

Gov. Phips to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Boston, July 28th, 1756.

Sir:

I did myself ye Honour to write you sometime ago concerning a Schooner belonging to Marblehead, Richard Stacey, Mas^tr Representing the Necessity that ye people of that place are under for flower, without which they cannot carry on their fishery, being long Accustomed to that kind of bread, & no other; the ordinary consumption of wch amongst ye People employed therein, on ye Banks, (if I am rightly informed,) may be fifteen Quintalls p^r Diem, besides

* No minute of 11th August printed.

ye Consumption of ye Inhabitants, wch are very Numerous. I Remonstrated also to you ye importance of that Branch of our Commerce to ye Welfare of this Province; & I might have added also to ye Generall Utility of ye British Nation.

I was not indeed so particular in ye Quantity; being made sensible that a Vessel of that Burthen could not carry more than six hundred and fifty Barrells wch was not sufficient for ye supply of their present Necessities, and as I would by no Means countenance any Trade that might have a Tendency to strengthen ye Enemies of ye King, my Master; so would I do every thing consistent wth my Duty that his subjects may not suffer in their Trade & Business.

The Factors who ship'd this Flower will no doubt let you know who the Proprietors are, it being chiefly on Freight & give you all ye satisfaction that such a case may require.

As there is now a War, the Risque will be increasing, therefore on a Consideration of all these Circumstances, I hope your Honour will permit said Vessel wth the Quantity of six Hundred & fifty Barrells, for the Use of ye fishery to depart for ye Port of Marblehead, wch will be a great Relief to them.

I am Sir,

Yr Most obedt Servt,

S. PHIPS.

Govr Morris.

Indorsed.

Governor Phipps, 28th July, 1756.

[650 Blls. of Flower to Marblehead, by Sam. Smith & Son, Jos. Saunders, & Joshua Howell. Permit dated, 12 August 1756.]

Gov. Morris to Mr. Kennedy, 1756.

Philada, July 29, 1756.

Sir:

I am favourd with yours of ye 15 Instant,* and one before with Sir Charles' Orders in Council, for continuing the Embargo. I think these bread Colonies should always open and shut their ports at the same time, that the ends of an Embargo may be the better answered, and the disadvantage falls equally upon them all.

The merchants here loaded about twenty vessells upon the Expectations given them by the Assembly, that the Embargo would expire on ye 7th Instant, regardless of any thing I could say, and their cargoes are since Either relanded or are perishing in their vessells.

I shall, you may be assured, consult with Sr Charles Hardy or yourself about taking off the Embargo here, & hope to be informed

* See pages 695, 702.

when that measure is so taken with you, as in my opinion it should be done on the same day, both here and at New York.

I am sorry for the death of Capt. Bradstreet, who by all accounts was an active man, and in conducting the Battoes to Oswego behaved with uncommon dilligence. I fear the French will take advantage of the difficulties attending the passage to Oswego, to cut off our Communication with that place, which, if the Six Nations continue to act upon the same neutral plan they had hitherto in general pursued, will be very much in their power.

Mr. Kennedy.

Indorsed,

Dft to Mr. Kennedy—That the Embargos ought to cease in both places at ye same time.

July 18, 1756.

Letters from J. Ridout, 1756.

Copy of the Governor's Letter to Lieutenant Sterling—

Annapolis, July 29th, 1756.

Sir:

By Mr. West I have received your Letter, advising me of the magistrates having opposed you in the Execution of the Orders that have been sent you by your Superior Officers, to enlist Servants & Apprentices in the Province for the Regiment to which you belong. I hope you have never found any of the magistrates backward to assist you as far as the Law will permit them, or as in their Power; & I should be sorry the Orders of your Commanding Officer should oblige you to ask of them more than Duty will permit them to perform. You must know that most of the Servants in this Country are more particularly their masters Property, than they are in any other Parts of his Majesty's Dominions, & that masters of such Servants will easily resign their interest in them, cannot, I think, be expected. I am told that the Gentlemen of that neighbourhood whence you date your Letter, have distinguished themselves by promoting the service on which you are employed, & that above 150 Freemen have, by their means, been persuaded to enlist themselves as Soldiers within these twelve months. Such Behaviour, I think, did nothing else, would entitle them to expect their Servants would not be taken away, & I am persuaded that if you refused to accept any Recruits but Freemen, you will meet with the greatest Encouragement from all the Gentlemen of this Province, & carry to your regiment more recruits than you would do, was you to accept & enlist every Person that should offer himself, to serve his Majesty without Distinction.

I am, Sir, &c.

Annapolis, January the 29th, 1756.

Sir:

Your Letter of the 26th, to his Excellency, I presented together with one from Mr. Sterling, whose conduct I find has given much umbrage in your County; the Governor bids me Inclose you his answer to Mr. Sterling, which he hopes will prevent any Disturbances, that his obedience to his Superior Officers instructions might have occasioned. You know, Sir, the Governor cannot appoint the recruiting parties their places of Rendevouz, & heartily wishes the Assembly had taken proper measures to prevent such complaints, as the Ordinary keepers of your Town and other places make, he will recommend it to the Assembly at their next meeting, in the mean time he hopes the Publicans will be satisfied with what the Soldiers are enabled or ordered to pay for their Board. The Price in England, as you see in the marking bill, is 4d Sterling ℔ day, but it having been represented home last Summer, that Soldiers could not be entertained in this Country for so small a sum. Orders were sent hither by the Ministry, that all officers of recruiting parties, &c., should pay Ordinary keepers, or on whom private Soldiers might be billeted, on this Continent 8d Sterling ℔ Day for each private Soldier so quartered. It is, I think, more than probable this his Majesty's orders will be made part of the next mutiny bill, which will remove all ocasion of Complaint hereafter on that subject. His Excellency thanks you for the part you have acted, & will be glad to receive any Propositions you have to offerr with respect to the State of your County, or any other affairs.

I am, Sir,
yr most humble &
obedt Servant,
J. RIDOUT.

To Bedingfreed Hand, Esqr.,
Chief Justice of Kent County.

Indorsed.

Annapolis—The Govr Letter to Lieut. Sterling, 29 July, 1756.

His Majesty's Declaration of War against the French King, 1756.

George R.

The unwarrantable Proceedings of the *French* in the *West Indies* and *North America*, since the Conclusion of the Treaty of *Aix la Chapelle*, and the Usurpations and Encroachments made by them upon our Territories, and the Settlements of Our Subjects in those Parts, particularly in our Province of *Nova Scotia*, have been so notorious and so frequent, that they cannot but be looked upon as a sufficient Evidence of a formed Design and Resolution in that Court to pursue invariably such Measures as should most effectually pro

mote their ambitious Views, without any Regard to the most solemn Treaties and Engagements. We have not been wanting on Our Part to make, from time to time, the most serious Representations to the *French* King upon these repeated Acts of Violence, and to endeavour to maintain Redress and Satisfaction for the Injuries done to Our Subjects, and to prevent the like Causes of Complaint for the future: But though frequent Assurances have been given that every thing should be settled agreeable to the Treaties subsisting between the Two Crowns, and particularly, that the Evacuation of the Four Neutral Islands in the *West Indies*, should be effected, (which was expressly promised to Our Ambassador in *France*) the Execution of these Assurances, and of the Treaties on which they were founded, has been evaded under the most frivolous Pretences; and the unjustifiable Practices of the *French* Governors, and of the Officers acting under their Authority, were still carried on, till, at length, in the month of *April*, One thousand seven hundred and fifty-four, they broke out in open Acts of Hostility, when, in Time of profound Peace, without any Declaration of War, and without any previous Notice given or Application made, a Body of *French* Troops, under the Command of an Officer bearing the *French* King's Commission, attacked in a hostile Manner, and possessed themselves of the *English* Fort on the *Ohio*, in *North America*.

But notwithstanding this Act of Hostility, which could not but be looked upon as a Commencement of War, yet, from our earnest Desire of Peace, and in Hopes the Court of *France* would disavow this Violence and Injustice, We contented Ourselves with sending such a Force to *America*, as was indispensably necessary for the immediate Defence and Protection of Our Subjects against fresh Attacks and Insults.

In the mean Time great Naval Armaments were preparing in the Ports of *France*, and a considerable body of *French* Troops embarked for *North America*; and though the *French* Ambassador was sent back to *England* with specious Professions of a Desire to accommodate these Differences, yet it appeared that their real Design was only to gain Time for the Passage of those Troops to *America*, which they hoped would secure the Superiority of the *French* Forces in those Parts, and enable them to carry their ambitious and oppressive Projects into Execution.

In these Circumstances We could not but think it incumbent upon Us, to endeavour to prevent the Success of so dangerous a Design, and to oppose the Landing of the *French* Troops in *America*; and, in Consequence of the just and necessary Measures we had taken for that Purpose, the *French* Ambassador was immediately recalled from Our Court; the Fortifications at *Dunkirk*, which had been repairing for some Time, were enlarged; great Bodies of Troops marched down to the Coast, and Our Kingdoms were threatened with an Invasion.

In order to prevent the Execution of these Designs, and to provide for the Security of Our Kingdoms which were thus threatened, We could no longer forbear giving Orders for the seizing at Sea the

Ships of the *French* King, and his Subjects. Notwithstanding which, as We were still unwilling to give up all Hopes that an Accommodation might be effected, We have contented Ourselves hitherto with detaining the said Ships, and preserving them, and (as far as was possible) their Cargoes intire, without proceeding to the Confiscation of them; but it being now evident, by the hostile invasion actually made by the *French* King of Our Island of *Minorca*, that it is the determined Resolution of that Court to hearken to no Terms of Peace, but to carry on the War, which has been long begun on their Part with the utmost Violence, We can no longer remain, consistently with what We owe to Our own Honour, and to the Welfare of Our Subjects within those Bounds, which, from a Desire of Peace, We had hitherto observed.

We have therefore thought proper to declare War, and We do hereby Declare War against the *French* King, who hath so unjustly begun it, relying on the Help of Almighty God, in Our just undertaking, and being assured of the hearty Concurrence and Assistance of Our Subjects, in support of so good a Cause, hereby willing and requiring Our Captain General of Our Forces, Our Commissioners for executing the Office of Our High Admiral of *Great Britain*, Our Lieutenants of Our several Counties, Governors of our Forts and Garrisons, and all other Officers and Soldiers under them, by Sea and Land, to do and execute all Acts of Hostility, in the Prosecution of this War against the *French* King, his Vassals and Subjects, and to oppose their Attempts, Willing and requiring all Our Subjects to take Notice of the same, whom We henceforth strictly forbid to hold any Correspondence or Communication with the said *French* King, or his Subjects. And We do hereby command Our own Subjects, and advertise all other Persons, of what Nation soever, not to transport or carry any Soldiers, Arms, Powder, Ammunition, or other Contraband Goods, to any of the Territories, Lands, Plantations, or Countries of the said *French* King; Declaring, That whatsoever Ship or Vessel shall be met withal, transporting or carrying any Soldiers, Arms, Powder, Ammunition, or any other Contraband Goods, to any of the Territories, Lands, Plantation or Countries of the said *French* King, the same being taken, shall be condemned as good and lawful Prize.

And whereas there are remaining in Our Kingdom divers of the Subjects of the *French* King, We do hereby declare Our Royal Intention to be, That all the *French* Subjects who shall demean themselves dutifully towards Us, shall be safe in their Persons and Effects.

Given at Our Court at *Kensington*, the Seventeeth Day of *May*, 1755, in the Twenty ninth Year of our Reign.

God save the King.*

* Published at Easton, on Friday, the 30th July, 1756, by the Governor, in presence of the Council, and several gentlemen and others. The First Battalion of the Pennsylvania Regiment drawn up in three divisions.

Published in Philadelphia, Augt. 1756.

Adam Reed to Edward Shippen, 1756.

Sir:

Yesterday Jacob Elles a Solder of Captn Smith's at Brown's forth, a Liver before, 2½ Milles over ye first Mountan just within the gape at s^d forth, having some wheat growing at his place prevel^d with his officer for some of ye men to help him to cut a Litle of ye same, accordingly 10 of them went, set guards Round & fell to work, about 10 of ye Clock, they had Reap^d doun & went to ye head to Begin again, and before they had all well Begon, 3 Indians Crep^t to ye fence just at their Back, & all 3 at one penal of the fence fired upon them, Killed their Corprall dead and another that was standing with his gun in one hand & a Botle in ye other, was wounded, his left arm is Brock in 2 places so that his gun fell, he Being a litle more down the feild, the feild Being about 15 or 16 poll in lenth, them that Reap^d had their arms about half way down at a larg tree as soon as ye Indians found they did not load their guns but leap^d over ye fence into the middle of them & one of them left his gun Behind him without ye fence, they all run thorow one another & thorow one another, ye Indians making a tarable Holo, and looked liker ye devel than an Indian, the Soulders fled to their Arms & as 3 of them stood Behind ye tree with their Arms ye Indian that came in wanting his gun, came within a few yards of them & took up the wounded Solder's gun & would ahave Kille^d another had not one that perseved him fired at him, so that he dropp^d ye gun the Indians fled, and in going off, 2 Soldiars stood about a Rod apart, a Indian Run thorow Betwixt them, they both fired at him, yet he went off cleer, when they were over ye fence a Soldier fired at one of them upon which he stooped a litle and so went all 3 off, a litle after they left ye feild they fired one gun and give a hollo, the Solder hid the one that was Killed, went home to the forth found James Brown that lives in ye forth one of their Solders a Missing, the Lieutinant went out with more men and Brought in the dead man but still Brown was missing I herd shooting that night, I went up next morning with some hands, Captain Smith had sent up more men from the other fort, went out next morning & against I got there word had come in from them they had found James Brown killed and scalped, I went over with them to bring him home, he was Killed with the last shot about 20 poll from the feild of Battle, his gun, his showes, & jacket carried off, the soulders that found him told me that they track^d the 3 Indians to the second Mountan & they found one of the Indians guns a little from Browns Corps Brock to in pieces as she had Been good for little, they showed me where ye Indians fired thorow ye fence & it was full Eleven yards to where the man lay dead ye Rising ground above ye feild was clear of standing timber & the grubes low, so that they had kept a Bad look out. The above acc^t you may depend upon, we have almost lost all Hopes

of any thing but to move off and loose our cropes we have Reap[d] with so much defickulty.

S[r] I am

Yours to serve,

ADAM REED.

Hanover, Augut ye 7, 1756.

Directed.

To M[r] Edward Shippen Esq[r]

Indorsed.

Adam Reed, 7th Aug[t], 1756.

Gov. Morris to Col. Clapham, 1756.

New York 4 Aug[t], 1756.

Sir:

I have yours by Cap. Lloyd,* which I received at Eliz'town, and by him send a copy of it to the Commissioners to whom I have wrote to send you some money for contingent services, and an additional number of Horses.—I do not remember ever to have promised the subaltern officers any augmentation of pay or to have heard the Commissioners say anything of such augumentation. I have your map of the forts and of the block Houses and stucado, you have Erected, which I much approve, as your people May under that cover work in safety.

As the Province has already been at a very considerable expense to gain a lodgment at Shamokin, which has been long thought a place of great importance, I must reccomend it to you and the officers under you, to continue upon that service till a stucodo fort or one like Fort Halifax be finished, when that is done I will consider of the officers Proposal, but till then I cannot think it consistent with my Duty to His Majesty or the safety of the Inhabitants to give the officers leave to resign.

Col. Clapham.

Indorsed.

Dft Gov[r] Morris' Letter to Col. Clapham, 4 Aug[t], 1756.

* See page 705.

James Galbreath to Edw. Shippen, 1756

Derry, 9 day of August, 1756.

Dr Sir,

There is nothing but Bade nuse Every day the Last week; there wase two Solders kild and one wounded about two mills from Monady fort, and two of the garde that Escorted the battoe were Kild, and we may Expeck nothing but such daly, if there is not a stope put to these savages; we shall be all broke in these parts, people are going off daly from these parts, and Leaving almost there all behind them, and as for my part I think alitill tim will lay the Country west by fright, so that the Enemy will have nothing to do but tak what we have worked for.

Sir,

your most Humble Servt.

JAS. GALBREATH.

[Read in Council, Aug. 21.]

Directed,

To Edward Shippen, Esqr., in Lancaster.

Indorsed.

James Galbreath, 9 Augt, 1756.

James Galbreath to James Hamilton, 1756.

Derry, the 10th Agust, 1756.

Honorad Sir,

There is nothing heare allmost Evry day but murder Commited by the Indians in som part or oather, about five mills above me, at Monady Gape; there was two of th provance solders kild, one wounded; there wase but three Indians, and they cam in amongst ten of our men and commited the murder, and went off safe; the name or sight of an Indian maks allmost all mankind in these parts to trimble, there Barbarity is so Cruel where they are masters, for by all apperance the Devall Commitans, God permits, and the French pays, and by this the Back parts, by all apparance, will be Laid west by flight, with what is gon and agoing, more Espesaly Cumberland County.

Pardon my freedom in this where I have Don amiss.

Sir,

your most Humble

Servant to Command,

JAS. GALBREATH.

P. S.. Sir, am in want of the pistels.

Direction.

To the Honourable James Hamilton, Esqr., at the seat on Bushhill.

Indorsed.

James Galbreath. 10 Aug^{t}, 1756.*

Copy, Wm. Parsons to Capt. Wetterhold, 1756.

Easton, Augt 12, 1756.

Sir:

I received your Letter of the 6th Instant, relating to the Mutiny at Fort Allen, excited by Christian Weyrick, a Corporal.

I therefore desire you to go with a Detachment of your own men, and take the said Christian Weyrick and bind him fast, & send him to the County Goal, at Easton, for exciting a Mutiny on the 5th Day of August Instant, at Fort Allen, be sure to secure him very well.

Also, I desire you to put the Lieut. under an Arrest for not endeavouring to Suppress a Mutiny, excited by Christian Weyrick, the 5th Instant, at Fort Allen. I think it will be best to order the Lieut. to Fort Norris, 'till further Orders. If these Mutinies are not suppress'd in the Beginning, it will be impossible to preserve any Order among the Forces. If Capt. Reynolds is not return'd to the Fort, I would have you take Care not to leave the Fort without a Commissioned Officer to command it, in his absence. I hope you will not lose any time in doing what is above directed you.

I am, &c.

W. P.†

To Capt. Wetterhold, at Fort Hamilton.

The 15th I sent a Copy to Capt. Wetterhold, by the Express that brought Capt. Ordt's Letter, with Directions to deliver it to him that night: And added to the Copy as follows, vizt.

Sir,

As I have not heard from you since I sent the Letter of which the above is a Copy, I must think you have not received that Letter, I therefore desire and order, that immediately upon Receipt thereof, you will put the above Orders into Execution, without any Excuse or Delay.

I am, &c.

Easton, Augt 15, 1756.

P. S. I am also informed that the Lieut. has been guilty of selling and embezelling the publick Stores, at Fort Allen.

* "Read in Council, Aug. 21, 1756."

† See Colon. Rec. Vol VII. p. 222.

Copy, Wm. Parsons to Capt. Orndt, 1756.

A Copy of a Letter to Capt. Orndt,

Easton, Augt 15, 1756.

Sir:

This morning early I received your 3 Letters of the 12th, 13th & 14th Instant. That relating to Lieut. Miller I shall transmit immediately to his Honour the Governor, and in the mean time approve what you have done with regard to the Lieut. Capt. Reynolds has Powder & Lead, and can spare 6lb of powder & 20lb of Lead to the Forces at Tucker's Mill, and if you order any Body for it they may shew him this Letter. I ordered Capt. Wetterhold to go to Fort Allen and arrest the man that had been so mutinous, for exciting a Mutiny, and to send him bound to the prison at Easton. I ordered him also to put the Lieut. under arrest, for not endeavouring to suppress a Mutiny lately raised at Fort Allen, and to order him, the Lieut., to Fort Norris till further Orders, but I have not heard one Word from Capt. Wetterhold in answer to my Orders, and wonder very much that he is so negligent. I desire you to let him know, that I expect he will pay immediate Obedience to his Orders as above. I am very much concern'd to hear the Indians keep lurking about Swaratauro, and that they cant be drove away from that place.

I am, &c.

Indorsed,

Copy Lett^r to Captain Wetterhold; another to Capt. Orndt—Major W^m. Parsons. 12 Aug^t, 1756.

Read in Council, 21st August.

Commissioners to Gov. Morris 1756.

Philadelphia, Aug^st 12, 1756.

Sir:

Your Honour having in your Letter of Yesterday, to the Commissioners, recommended Sundry Articles of Expence, and the advancing of Money on Several Occasions, they think it necessary to acquaint your Honour, which they hereby do, that the Fifty-five Thousand Pounds put into their Hands by Act of Assembly for the King's Use, is all expended, together with about Two Thousand Two hundred Pounds, Part of the Five Thousand Pounds given by the Proprietors; But the Proprietors Receiver General having this Day acquainted the Commissioners that he has no Money in his Hands to pay the Remainder of that Gift, and does not know when he shall have it; they can proceed no further in advancing Money or

giving Orders, till they can see how the Same will be repaid or answered.

We are your Honour's

Obedient hum. Servts.

JAMES HAMILTON,
JOHN MIFFLIN,
JON. HUGHES,
JOS. FFOX,
EVAN MORGAN,
B. FRANKLIN.

To Honbl R. H. Morris, Esqr.

Directed.

To The Honble Robt H. Morris, Esqr., Lieut. Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania.

Indorsed.

Commissrs letter to Govr, yt ye £55,000 is expended.
12th Augt, 1756.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL, 1756.

A Council ye 14th Augst. 1756. P. M.

PRESENT.

The Governor—

BENJ. CHEW, JOHN MIFFLIN, } THOS. CADWALLADER, } Esquires.

The several Letters & Papers sent by Express from Lt. Col. Armstrong, & relating to ye taking Fort Granville,* on ye 30th Ult., and other Mischiefs done by ye French and Indians in Cumberland County, being read, the Governor desired the Council's Advise what steps he should take for the relief and better Security of that part of the Frontier; acquainting them yt he had already prepared Drafts of Letters to be sent to-morrow morning to Ld. Loudon & Sr. Chas. Hardie on yt subject, and to Lt. Coll. Armstrong & Weiser, to be upon their guard, & provide in ye best manner they could, for ye stopping ye progress of ye Enemy, and defending ye Frontiers; which Drafts were read & approved of. And ye Council also advised ye Govr. to press ye Assembly to make some further provision for ye better Security of ye Western Frontier.†

Indorsed,

14th Augt. 1756. Mint. Council.

* See Col. Records, Vol. VII., p. 242, 278.

† This Minute does not appear in the printed Colonial Records.

Col. Clapham to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Fort Augusta, 14th August, 1756.

Sir:

Last night I receiv'd by Express the disagreeable News, that Fort Granville was taken and burnt to the Ground by a Body of five hundred French and Indians, that the whole Garrison were kill'd except one Person, who was much wounded, and made his Escape; and am well Assured that this Loss was entirely occasioned by a Want of Ammunition, having receiv'd a Letter two or three days ago from Colonel John Armstrong, that they had in that Fort only one Pound of Powder & fourteen Pounds of Lead.

And I must again acquaint your Honor, that we are still without the necessary Military Stores, for which Mr. Burd ℘ my Orders has frequently wrote to the Commissioners, but to no purpose; and shou'd the Enemy invest us in ourpresent situation, wch in all Probability is their Design, it is impossible but we must likewise fall a sacrifice to them. We have not in store more than four half Barrels of Powder, which is only half of a Pound to each Man, & none remaining for the use of the Cannon. Inclos'd is a List of several Articles absolutely & immediately necessary for our Security; with which I expect the Commissioners will furnish us without Delay; and then we may be able to give a good Account of ourselves, we have the Walls of the Fort now above half finished, and our other Works in such situation, that we can make a very good Defence against any Body of French & Indians that shall seat themselves before us without Cannon.

I am inform'd by the Express, That the 12 Battoes I sent the 10th Instant to Harris's for Flour, &c., met wth so much Difficulty in getting down the River to Halifax, that I am convinc'd it will be quite impracticable for them to push up before the River rises; but least they should attempt to do it, I have dispatch'd a Messenger to Capt. Jameson, whom I have order'd not to suffer them to stir, but to remain at Hunter's Fort till further Orders, as I am apprehensive the Enemy have by this time posted themselves along the River in order to interrupt our Communications and harrass our Convoys.

The present method of supplying this Garrison by Water is so uncertain that some quick expedient should be fallen upon to engage a number of Pack Horses into the Service, which may transport our Provisions, &c., at all times of the Year, by the Way of Tulpehocken, or any other that may be thought more convenient.

Our Battoes during the Winter Season must lay by, so that it will be necessary that three or four months Provisions shou'd be stored up here in the Fall, for the support of this Garrison till the Spring.

Mr. Bryan, who by no means has supported the Character of a good Officer, this morning deliver'd me up his Commission, which

he choose to do rather than stand a Tryal before a General Cour Martial for his late Mis-Conduct. I have therefore filled up an En sign Commission for Mr. Thomas Mckee's son, who enter'd into the Regiment as a Volunteer at Mckee's Store, & has since behav'd him self extremely well in that Capacity:

I have put Lieutenant Plunket under an arrest for mutiny, & only wait for the return of Capt. Lloyd the Judge Advocate, to have him tryed by a General Court Martial.

I wou'd now refer you to my last Letter of the 10th Instant, and have only to assure you that I always am with great Esteem.

Your Honors

Most Obedient humble Servant

WILLM. CLAPHAM.

P. S. If this Letter shou'd not be very clean when it comes to your Honor's Hands, I beg you will excuse it, as I am oblig'd to put it into the Pad of the Courier's Pack-Saddle, lest ye Enemy shou'd get Possession of it.

To the Honble. Robt Hunter Morris, Esqr. Govr. &c.

Indorsed.

Col. Clapham's Letter to the Govr. Aug. 14 1756.

Wm. Parsons to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Easton, August the 14th, 1756.

Honored Sir,

Yesterday afternoon the Detachment that escorted the Indians from Bethlehem to Fort Allen, returned, and with them came Ben and another Indian Man of Teedyuscung's Retinue, who intend to go to Philada. and stay there.

I ask'd Ben after Teedyuscung, and the Reason of his staying so long at the Fort, and what his Reason was for leaving the King. He told me his Reason for returning was, that he saw nothing but want and Hunger before him if he went to Diahogo, whereupon he told the King that he was now going to a People, whose Language he was entirely unacquainted with, and therefore he could not be of any service to him with them; that he would stay with the English till the King return'd again, when he would very cheerfully serve him as an Interpreter to the English as he now had done.

This pass'd last Wednesday, when Ben waited upon the King about 12 Miles from the Fort, (on his Way to Diahogo) where Ben

left him with the other Indians. So that it seemed unnecessary for me to go up to the Fort, the Indians being really gone from it.

As to the Stay of the Indians at the Fort, Ben gives a most villainous account of the Lieut. there, while the Captain was at Philad^a^. He says that Teedyuscung had procured 16 Deer Skins, which he intended to have sent as a present to the Governor to make him a pair of Gloves, as he said; the Lieut. told the King, that one Skin was enough to make a pair of Gloves, and kept teezing him and plying him with Rum till the old Man was off his Guard. Ben told the King he hoped he would not go from his Design of sending the Skins to the Governor, and told the Lieut. that he did not understand Indian affairs, that the King knew very well that the Governor could not use 16 Skins in making a pair of Gloves but that that was the Indian way of speaking. But all was to no purpose, and the Lieut. got the 16 Skins for three pounds, which Money Ben counted himself, but does not know what became of it. Ben says further, that as long as the Indians had money, the Lieut. sold them Rum, so that they were almost always drunk; and he believes that if they had been refused Rum at their first coming to the Fort, the King and all his Company would not have stay'd long there, but would have proceeded to Diahogo, and would not have stay'd and eaten all their Store of Provisions before they left the Fort.

Ben informs further that they had discovered the Tracks of about 20 strange Indians coming from Susquahanah and going towards Minnisinks. That they suppose these Indians are out upon some bad Design as they marched mostly a Breast or aside of one another Whereas the Indian manner is when they have no unfriendly or hostile Intentions, always to march one after the other. Your Honour will your self hear things more particularly from Ben. He was very free from Liquor and very clear and intelligible when he gave me this acc^t^. I am

Your Honour's
most obedient,
humble Servant,
WM. PARSONS.*

Direction.

On his Majesty's Service.

To the Honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esquire, Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania.

Indorsed.

14 Aug. 1756. Wm. Parsons. Read in Council 21st August.

* See Colon. Rec. Vol. VII p. 222.

Wm. Parsons to R. Peters, 1756.

Easton, August 15, 1756.

Sir:

Your Favour of the 11th came safe to Hand and I thank you for the good News you communicated to me. Indian Ben & another Indian Man came last Fryday from Fort Allen and are desirous to come to Philada, as they wanted to go to Bethlehem I was obliged to send two men with them yesterday and they are returned to Day to Easton: To Morrow, or next Day they will set off under the Care of Ensign Insley. I have abundance of disagreeable Accots to send his Honour from Fort Allen, but cant get my Letters ready till Mr. Insley goes. Mr. Horsfield wrote me word this Day that he had wrote by Mr. Edmonds to the Governor to acquaint him that Teedyuscung was realy gone. I realy believe that he would not have stayed so long at the Fort, But as Ben tells me the Lieut. there had sold him as much Rum as he could pay for, till he received my orders not to let the Indians have more than a gill a Day. When the King saw those orders he was a little ashamed for staying so long. But Ben who is become a very sober Fellow, will give a more full Accot of the villainous Conduct of the Lieut., of which I shall write his Honr a pretty large Accot. I should be very much obliged to you if you would please to let me know if you heard any thing at New York concerning my Friend Mr. Richard Nugent.

I am Sir,

Your obedient humble Servant,

Wm. PARSONS.*

Directed,

Richard Peters, Esquire, in Philadelphia. By favour of Wm. Vernon.

Indorsed.

Wm. Parsons, 15th Augt, 1756. Read in Council 21st Augt.

Wm. Parsons to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Easton, August the 15th 1756.

Honoured Sir:

In my Letter to your Honour of the 8th I mentioned my Design of going to Fort Allen to learn the Occasion of King Teedyuscung's stay there but was prevented by other publick affairs, from going as I intended, but I believe by my letter of yesterday your Honour will see the Reason of his stay at the Fort.

On the 10th I received a Letter from Mr. Horsfield, informing me

* See Colon. Records, Vol. VII. p. 222.

that four of the Indians that came with Teedyuscung, and who had return'd with him to the Fort, came back to Bethlehem: He likewise informed me that two of them desired to be escorted to Philad^a which he had prevailed with the Bretheren to do. The other two with a Woman and Child wanted to go to Fort Allen, and desired me to send a Detachment to escort them there; which I did that Ev'ning and repeated my Orders to the Commanding Officer to build a Shade for the Indians and not to let them have more than a Gill of Rum a Man ℔ Day. And I believe these orders were the Reason of the King's resolving to go; and Ben is of the same Opinion. I only wait for Capt. Wetterhold, from whom I expect to hear (or to see him) this Day, and then shall pay them a visit at the Fort, unless I can be satisfied otherways. The Occasion of my expecting Capt. Wetterhold soon, is that on the 10th I heard there had been some Disorders committed at Fort Allen, and that he had been there and assisted in setting them right again, but received no written Information from any Body. I thought it necessary to send immediately to Capt. Wetterhold for an account of what he had seen amiss at Fort Allen. And early on the morning of the 12th I received the inclosed German Letter from him, the substance of it I have put into English which also comes inclosed. That same morning I wrote a Letter to Wetterhold, a copy whereof comes also inclosed. And as I expect every minute to hear what he has done in the Affair, I cant think it right to leave the Town till I do hear from (or see) him. I have been inform'd by a private Hand that saw him with his Detachment going to Fort Allen, as he said, to execute the Orders he had received from me. This Morning Capt. Orndt's Letter came to Hand and I am affraid that Lieut. Miller is faulty. It gives me great Pain that I am obliged to give your Honour all this Trouble at this time; but without your Authority and Direction we are like to run into great confusion. I am however determined that nothing shall be wanting on my part to preserve good Order in the several Companies. And I persuade myself that your Honour will not think I have been idle.

I am very doubtful that Capt. Reynold is rather too young for that Station where the Indians are, and will be continually passing and repassing, and may require the Care and Conduct of a more experienced Officer. His Lieut. I take to be that little impertinent Body which your Honour saw at the Tavern on Quittopohela Spring, where Reynolds was with his Recruits, where your Honour returned from the Camp at Harris's Ferry. I am,

Honoured Sir,

Your most obedient
humble Servant,

W^M. PARSONS.

August 16, 1756.

This Evening between 7 & 8, Capt. Wetterhold brought Christian Weyrick Prisoner to this Town, and delivered him to the Keeper of Goal.

Yesterday he met with Capt. Orndt's Ensign returning to Fort Norris, who told him that Lieut. Miller would not submit to his arrest, Wetterhold told him he should go back with him to the Lieut. and he did not doubt but he could bring him to submit. When they came to the Lieut. Wetterhold asked him why he was not obedient to his Captain's Orders; the Lieut. told him that he had as good a Commission as his Capt. and he would not submit to him and he questioned if Wetterhold had Power to arrest him. Wetterhold told him if he did not immediately submit to his own Capt. he would soon convince him that he had himself Authority to put him into arrest whereupon the Lieut. desired one Day to settle his affairs before he went. I am fully of opinion if it were not for Wetterhold there would not be one Officer found in those Parts that dared execute orders of this kind, and he appears to me to be a resolute discreet Man. By Lieut. Allen's Letter to me of Yesterday, which comes with this, Your Honour will observe that Capt. Reynolds is gone again from the Fort with his Ensign, who, as far as I can learn, is the best officer of the 3 at Fort Allen. And that Teedyuscung is returned again to the Fort. To Morrow Morning I will go and enquire into the reason of his unaccountable Behaviour and endeavour to send him away.

I am,
Honoured Sir,
Your Most Obedient
humble Servant.
WM. PARSONS.*

Directed,

To the Honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr, Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania. On his Majesty's Service.

Indorsed.

Wm. Parsons' Lett^rs from Easton, Augt ye 15th, 1756. Read in Council, 21st Aug^t

---

GEORGE STEVENSON TO GOV. MORRIS, 1756.

Honoured Sir,

The Petition herewith sent you was written & sign'd this Day, therefore there are but a few names at it, but, I beg leave to assure y^r Honour 'tis the sentiments of the People.

The Facts contain'd in it, are undoubtedly true, in company with seven of my Neighbours I was last Friday at Carlisle for Information.

* See Colon. Rec. Vol. VII. p. 222.

Two Copies of this Petition are to be sent to the Country to morrow to be sign'd, which will be forwarded for y^r Satisfaction next Post.

This the Inhabitants insisted on being sent to y^r Honour by this Post, as our, Case will not admit of Delay.

I beg y^r Honour's Pardon for this Liberty, and to be accounted,

Hon^d S^r,

Y^r most obedient

H^ble Servt,

GEO. STEVENSON.

Directed.—York, 16th Aug^t, 1756.

Governor Morris.

Indorsed.

George Stevenson, 16th August, 1756. In Council, 21 Aug^t.

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly, 1756.

Gent^n:

The money heretofore granted for the defence of the Province being Expended it will be impossible to keep the troops posted on the Frontiers much longer together without their pay. I therefore recommend it to you to enter upon the consideration of this matter without delay, and to grant such supplys as his Majesty's Service and the safety of the Province at this time require. What makes this the more necessary is the number of French and Indians that are now on our Border, a body of whom, under a French Officer, have taken and Burnt Fort Granville on the Juniata, one of our most considerable Forts on the Western Frontier, while others of them are murdering the inhabitants and laying waste the Country.

The People to the west of Sasquehana, distressed by the frequent incursions of the Enemy and weakened by their great losses, are moving into the Interior parts of the Province, and I am fearfull that whole country will be evacuated if timely & vigorous measures are not taken to prevent it.

Major Rutherford, the Commanding Officer in this Province of his Majesty's Royal American Regiment, now raising, has applyed for some place in or near this city where the men belonging to that Corps may be Lodged, together that they may receive the King's Provisions, be taught the use of arms, & brought under a proper discipline, which he thinks it impossible to accomplish while they remained settled in different places. As there are at present no houses proper for the reception of troops I must recommend it to you to enable me to Erect a number of Barracks in some convenient place sufficient for the reception of a thousand men. There being

already above five hundred raised in this Province and about the same number daily expected hither from Europe, and as great numbers of the men raised in this Province are Indentured Servts, I must again recomend it to you to make provisions agreeable to his Majesties Directions for the payment of their Masters the value of the time they had to serve, that the furnishing men for his Majesty's Service may not fall two heavy upon particulars.

Indorsed.
D'ft. Govr's Message to ye Assembly, 16th Augt, 1756.

Col. Clapham, to Gov. Morris 1756.

Fort Augusta, 17th Augst, 1756.

Honoured Sir:

When I wrote on the 14th Instant I omitted to inform Your Honor that the Garrison at Fort Hallifax, Hunter's and McKee's Store had very little Ammunition; And Yesterday I received a Letter from Capt Jemmison acquainting me that no Warlike Stores are yet arrived at Harris's from Philadelphia, so that I hope the Commissioners will make the greatest Dispatch in furnishing these several Garrisons wth all the necessary Supplies. I forgot also to mention our Want of Granada Shells, which should be sent up properly filled and fuzed.

Inclosed is the Examination of a Young Man, who has been among the Indians above six months & made his Escape here last Saturday.*

I am, with due Esteem,
Your Honour's
Most obedient
humе Servt,
WILL'M CLAPHAM.

The Honble Robert H. Morris, Esqr, Governor, &c.

Directed.
On His Majesty's Service.
To The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esquire,
Captain General and Commander-in-Chief of the
Province of Pennsylvania.

Indorsed.
17 Augt, 1756. Col. Clapham.

* See Col. Rec. Vol. VII., p. 231.

Wm. Thompson to [illegible], 1756.

Dr. Sr.:

About the middle of the Night our Sentries were alarm'd (as they supposed by Indians) and one of them fired his Gun which alarmed the rest of the Fort, upon which we doubled our Guard and remained so to this Morning. When viewing the Place where they Indians were supposed to be, found Tracks, and following them down the Creek the Increased to a larger Number, and Several Shoe Tracks with Narrow Toes being amoung them, there is no doubt both French and Indians are in the Gang. David Ramsey, who was Tracking, saw one of the Inds about a hundred yds Distance and shot at him, but as there were but a few Men out durst not pursue him. We have put every thing in the best order to make as good defence as Possible we can, but we are Scarce of ammunition; we will not be able to hold it out long.

You had better set off as soon as this express arrives and bring with as much Powder & Lead as you can get.

I am, in haste, yours, &c.,

WILLIAM THOMPSON.

Fort Lyttleton,
17th Augt, 1756,
9 o'clock, A. M.

P. S. Our horses are all Taken.

Indorsed.
17 Augt, 1756 Letter Lieutenant Wm. Thompson.

Adam Hoops to Col. Armstrong, 1756.

Aguest, ye 18 day, 1756.

Sir:

I hauf Sent express to you woth ye Frinch Leter, and one from Leften Thompson, and Copey of what I hauf Sent ꝑ Capt. Hamilton, and Einsine Scott, and ye Remander I will send By Potter, and Steels man. Leftein Holedy Sent to me Last night for Blankets, and says that his man are all goen to Leauf him for want of ye Sam, as ye Enhabents having all Left ye fort. Capt. Potter hauf 47 mean, ond ow maney, Capt. Steel hays I can not will tel, Bot I Belef about 30 or op wards, if you hauf aney Blankets send by ye Bearer. I Beleauf I will mak op near 20 Strays, and ye Remander send ꝑ Potter and Steels mean, wich I hop you will Resef at your argel, then

I hauf nothing moer as I Rember Bot my Complements to Mrs. Armstrong, and my Ernest Disier of your will fear and sok ses.

I am with much astem your

Most Humebel Servent,

ADM. HOOPS.

N. B. I hauf got 39 par of hors Shoes, and 15 pear wich is pot one ye Horses.

Sinc I Rot ye Carriers Haues come to me to let me now that near John Lendseys was seen 5 or 6 Indenns, and that Cow was Shot down at yr grin Ston Hill, and says that they Cannot Carrey out ye flouer wich they ad agread for with, there is not 5 famleys in all thees parts Bot wot is now fled ye Satlment is full of Indens, and seen in maney pleases; from

A. H.

Directed.

To Conl John Armstrong, Esqr., Conlnel—in heast. ☞ favur of Hugh Capert.

Indorsed.

Letter Adam Hoops to Conl J. Armstrong, 18 Augt, 1756.

Hance Hamilton to Adam Hoops, 1756.

Wensday morning, 5 o'Clock, Augst ye 19th, 1756.

Mr. Hoops,

Dr Sir,

I have Last night Recd a Letter by Express from my Lieut., which I have inclos'd with the Orrignal of the French Letter, left at Fort Granvil. We are Scarce of Powder and Lead at our Forts; I am oblidged to get a little from Mr. Hoops, and give my Recept as for the Expedition.

There is a party of Capt. Mercers Company here, and on our Receiving this Letter we march Directly, taking with us Twelve Beef Cattle, and what Pack Horses belongs to the two Forts. The rest is to be brought up by Capts Potters and Steels men.

Sir, there was five of my men that was free about the Seventh of July, wich promiss'd to inlist again, and they continued in the Service until they had heard of Fort Granvil being taken, (and not being Quallified they went off,) as it is Reported for want of Amunition, and we being so Scarce they plainly Refused to Serve longer under Such Circumstances.

Sir, I am your

Affectionate Humble Servt.

HANCE HAMILTON.

Directed.

To Connel Jn°. Armstrong, Esqr., at Carlisle.

Indorsed.

Captn Hance Hamilton to Col. John Armstrong, 19 Aug^t, 1756

Capt. Wetterhold to Wm. Parsons, 1756.

Sir:

In the night of the 5th of August, Christian Weyrick, a Corporal, began to quarrel with the Indians, and threatned to drive them out of the Fort. The Lieut. persuaded him to forbear, but he seized the Lieut. & threw him on the Ground, and afterwards went to the Indian Sqaws and behaved very undecently with them the whole night, and some of his Comrades; One John White upbraiding him with it, he began to curse and attempted to tear him to pieces, when Philip Bortner stept out of the Guard Room and ask'd him if he was not ashamed to behave so, but he took him and threw him on the Bench, who calling out for help, Dewalt Bossing sprung between them, but he was not able to manage him; Then came Michael Laury, he struck him several Blows upon the Head, and thereupon they were parted; then he took a Gun and drove about the Fort like a Beast and not like a man, and struck down two of them, afterwards he laid hold of his Cutlass and went into the Captains House and pointed it out at the window; Then he took a Gun and snapped it twice, but it would not go off; Then he took another Gun, and that miss'd Fire also; then he laid hold of a Third Gun, which Capt. Foleck took from him; Then he seized another Gun and went out of the House, and said one of the 4 Reading town Soldiers, or John White, should die, and shott at him; then he called to his Comrades and told them they should not leave him, they would storm the Fort, and no man should live that Day; then he ran into the Captains House and threw the Benches about from Top to Bottom, but there was no Body in the House but the Lieut., the Clerk and the Serjeant, they warned him, but it all help'd nothing; Then the Serjeant Bossing went to the Guard and told them to take him into arrest, but they would not; Then he went and broke Stones from the Chymny Back and threw them in at the window, and cursed furiously, and said he would kill one of the 4 Reading town Soldiers, or would stab or shoot Serjeant White; He behaved so violently that they were obliged to leave the Fort; He broke several Guns to pieces, and afterwards Michael Beltz, the Lieut., Christian Weyrick and Killian Lang, fetch'd water and put Rum in it, and washed their private parts therein. The 6th of Augt the Ensign returned to the Fort and put things in better order. This

is the Information from me, John Nicholas Widerhold, Captain. N. B. I have already acquainted Coll°. Weiser with the affair.

Copy or Translation of Capt. Wetterhold's German Letter.

N. B. The Capt. Dates his Letter the Day he was at Fort Allen but he must have wrote it since that time, for it was the 10th I wrote to him & reced his answer the 12th, so that his Letter to me should bear date the 11th Instant.

W. P.*

Indorsed.

The Substance of Capt. Wetterhold's Letter.

In Council, 21st Augt.

Rev. Thomas Barton to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Honour'd Sir:

I send your Honour the inclos'd Petition at the Sollicitation of a great number of People. The complicated Distresses of these poor Creatures are beyond Expression. What few Inhabitants remained in Cumberland are daily flying from thence, so that in three or four days it will be totally relinquish'd. Marsh Creek is now the Frontier, and such a Panick has seiz'd the Hearts of People in general, that unless we have soon some favourable Turn in our Affairs, I am affraid the Enemy need not long be at the Pains to dispute a Claim to those two Counties.

I hope your Honour will pardon this Freedom, & do me the Justice to believe that I am, with Gratitude & Truth

Your Honour's most obedt

& most humᵉ Servt.

THO. BARTON.†

Redding, August 21st, 1756

Indorsed,

Letter Thomas Barton, Inclosing a Petition from Town & County of York. 21 Augt, 1756.

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. VII., p. 222.
† See Colon. Rec., Vol. VII., p. 233.

Rev. Thomas Barton to R Peters, 1756.

Carlisle, August 22d. 1756.

Revd. Sir.

I came here this Morning, where all is Confusion. Such a Panick has seized the Hearts of People in general, since the Reduction of Fort Granville, that this County is almost relinquished, & Marsh Creek in York County is become a Frontier.

By an Express just arriv'd here, we have the most melancholy Account from Conogocheage, that on Friday last, at a Place call'd Salisbury Plains, as a Number of People were accompanying the Corpse of a young woman to her grave, who had been accidently drowned, they were fir'd upon by a Party of Indians, who kill'd five the first fire, upon which they dispers'd, and fled to one Wolgimer's, where there were Seventeen (besides the five kill'd at first) missing, when the Account came away And what is unparalell'd by any Instance of Brutality, they even open'd the Coffin, took out the Corps and scalp'd her.

This Account, Sir, you may depend upon, as we have it confirm'd by a reputable Person, Mr. Benjamin Wallace of Paxton.

I send you open'd a Petition to his Honour the Governer, which be pleas'd to send him.

I should be extremely glad to have the Pleasure of a Line or two from you. Your Advice would be of service to me at this Time, when I know not what to do, whether to quit this Place, or to remain a little longer, to see whether any thing favourable will turn out for us.

I am, Revd. Sir,
Your most affectionate &
Most obedient Servant,
THOS. BARTON.

The Revd. Mr. Peters.

Directed.

To Richard Peters, Esqr., Secretary of the Province of Pennsylvania.

Indorsed.

Letter.—22 Aug, 1756, Thomas Barton &c.

Petition from Cumberland Co. 1756.

To the Honorable Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania.

The Address of Part of the remaining Inhabitants of the County of Cumberland.

Most Humbly showeth.

That the French and their Savage Allies, have from Time to Time made Several Incursions into this County, have in the most Inhumane and barbarous manner, murder'd great Numbers of People, and carried others into Captivity; and being greatly emboldened by a series of Success, not only attempted, but also took Fort Granville, on the 30th of July last, then commanded by the late Lieutenant Edward Armstrong, & carried off the greatest Part of the Garrison, Prisoners; from whom, doubtless, the Enemy will be inform'd of the Weakness of this Frontier, and how incapable we are of defending ourselves against their Incursions, which will be a great Inducement for them to redouble their Attacks, and in all probability enforce the Remaining Inhabitants of this County to evacuate it. Great Numbers of the Inhabitants are already fled, & others preparing to go off, Finding that it is not in the Power of the Troops in Pay of the Government (were we certain of their being continued) to Prevent the Ravages of our Restless, Barbarous, & Merciless Enemy. It is therefore greatly to be doubted, that (without a further Protection) the Inhabitants of this County will shortly endeavour to save themselves and their Effects by flight, which must consequently b productive of considerable Inconveniences to his Majesties Interest in General & to the Welfare of the People of this Province in Particular.

Your Petitioners being fully convinced of your Honrs Concern for, & strict Attachment to his Majesties Interest have presum'd to request that your Honr would be pleas'd to take our Case into Consideration, & if agreeable to your Honrs Judgment, to make Application to his Excellency General Loudon that part of the Troops now raising for his Excellenly's Regiment may be sent to, and for some time continued in some of the most important and advantageous Posts in this County, By whose Assistance We may be enabled to continue a Frontier if possible, and thereby induce the remaining Inhabitants to secure at least, a part of the immense Quantity of Grain which now lies exposed to the Enemy & subject to be destroy'd or taken away by them, and also enable the Provincial Troops to make Incursions into the Enemies Country which woul'd contribute greatly to the safety and Satisfaction of your Honrs Petrs.

And your Petrs as in Duty bound will Ever pray, &c.

ROBART ERWIN.

Fran West,
John Welsh,
James Dickson,
Sa. Smith,
Wm. Buchanan,
Daniel Williams,
John Montgomery,
Thos. Barker,
John Lindsay,
James Lindsay,
Thos. Urie,
Fr. Buchanan,
Wm. Spear,
James Polock,
Andrew McIntyre,
Robert Gibson,
Garret McDaniel,
Arthur Foster,
James Brandon,
John Houston,
Patrick M'Collom,
James Reed,
Thos. Lockertt,
Andrew Dalton,
John Erwin,
Wm. Blyth,
Robert Miller,
Wm. Miller,
James Young,
Jno. Davis,
John Mitchel,
John Pattison,
Samuel Stevens,
John Fox,
Charles Pattison,
John Foster,
Wm. M'Coskry,
Andrew Colhoun,
James Stackpole,
William Selle,
James Robb,
Samuel Anderson,
Rebert Robb,
Samuel Hunter,
W. Forster,
Nath. Smyth,

Indorsed.

Petition from Inhabitants of ye County Cumberland. In Council 21 Aug^{t}, 1756.

Petition from Cumberland County, 1756.

The Humble Suplication of the Remaining part of the Inhabitants of East Penborrow township, in Comberland County, Leting your Worship know some part of our Melancoly State we are in at present by the Savage Indians, which has not only kild our Christian Neighbours, but are coming nearer to us in their Late Slaughter, and Almost every Day numbers of our frontires are Laving their places and traviling further Down amongst the Inhabitants, and we are made Quite uncapable of holding our frontires Good any Longer, unless your Worship can prevail with our Honble Governour and Assembly, be please to Send us Speedy Relife. May it pleas all to whom this shall Come to Consider what an Evil Case we will be Exposed to in Leaving our places, and Grain and Cattle, for we are not able to boy Provisions for our familys, much Less for our Cattle. And to live here we Cannot, we are so Weake handed, and what is unmoved is not provided with Guns and Amunition, and we have

* See Colon. Rec. Vol. VII., p. 243.

agreed with a gard of fourteen men in number, and if it were in our power to pay for a Geard we should be Satisfyed, but we are not able to pay them.

Beging for God's Sake you may take pity upon our familys, and their necessities may be considered by all Gentlemen that has the Charge of Us.

Dated August ye 24th, 1756.

by the humble Requist of what Remaines of the Inhabitants of our township, to the Revd Richard Petters, Secratory, in Pheledelphia.

beging God to Command A blessing upon your Endeavours.

William Chasnut,	Tobias Hendrix,
John Sample,	John McCormick,
Frances McGuire,	Rodger Walton,
James McMullen,	Robert McWhiney,
Samuel McCormick,	James Silleyn.

Indorsed.

Request of Inhabitants of East Pennsborough, recd 28 Aug^t, 1756.

Capt. Lloyd to Edw'd Shippen, 1756.

Augt. 24th, 1756.

Dear Sir,

Finding on my Arrival at this Place that there was a Quantity of Provisions & Ammunition here in Store for the Use of the Garrison at Shamokin, I concluded to wait here and take the Command of a Convoy which the Commissary was preparing to send off, and for that Purpose wrote by Express to Colonel Clapham, requesting him to send me a sufficient Escort & proper officers, as I had sufficient Reason to apprehend that amongst the Banditti which in all Probability beseig'd the Roads, there might be some Persons capable of reading either French or English, I thought it best, as the Letter convey'd Intelligence of a large Supply of Provisions & Ammunition to write in Latin, which accordingly I did and very fortunately, for of the two Couriers I sent, the one who had my Letter in Possession was killed, scalp'd & plunder'd, the other made his Escape after shooting the Indian who killed his Comrade, & reports that the Number of Indians was about fforty, besides a Party of no inconsiderable Strength which was then crossing the River on hearing the Report of the Guns, a Serjeant of Veracity, who is this Minute arriv'd from Shamokin, & well vers'd in the Woods, assures me that on the Road he observ'd the Tracks of 3 different Partys, the Number of which corresponds with the former Intelligence, all directed

towards Tulpehoccen; I thought it my Duty to convey you this Intelligence, & wish the Country may profit more than I fear they will by the Alarm; every Man I address here on the Subject, only stares, shakes his Head, & asks what can he do?

Alas! Sir, If some of you don't do more than you have done, if you don't instantly exert yourselves on the Frontier, the Frontier will be entirely lost; Cumberland is already abandon'd, & Limb after Limb the whole will perish; but I'm tir'd of this Theme, & beg Leave to conclude,

Yours most affectionately,

T. LLOYD.

Indorsed,

24 Augt. 1756, Captn. Lloyd to E. Shippen.

Address of Unitas Fratrum to Gov. Denny,* 1756.

May it Please Your Honour,

We, his Majesties most dutiful and Loyal Subjects, Members of the Unitas Fratrum, residing in Northampton County and Province of Pensylvania, and our United Brethren in said Province, having with Pleasure heard of Y^{r} Hon^{rs} safe Arrival in Philadelphia, cannot but return Almighty God Thanks for his gracious Preservation of Y^{r} Hon^{r} on your Voyage at this Time of Danger.

We beg Leave to congratulate Your Honour at Your Entrance on this important Station, which so immediately concerns the Welfare of so many Thousand People, and especially at this critical Juncture, and we thankfully receive You as a Minister of God, appointed from above, to the Deterring and Obstructing of Evil, and to the Encouraging and promoting of that which is good.

We also thank his Majesty, our most gracious Sovereign King, George the Sec^{d}, for his paternal Care towards this Province, as also towards all other the Territories (which the Lord of Lords and King of Kings has intrusted to Him) demonstrated in sending Wise and prudent Governors, in his Name faithfully to promote the Welfare of this Country. May his Majesty enjoy a long and happy Reign over us! and let all the Enemies of his Royal Family be as Chaff before the Wind, and as Stubble before the Fire.

We gratefully acknowledge that we have hitherto lived under this Government with Contentment, and esteem ourselves happy that we reside in a Country furnish'd with such good Laws, govern'd by so wise a Sovereign, and which by the Regulation of the late Hono^{ble}

* Gov. Morris, who entered upon his duties Oct. 3, 1754, is now succeeded by Gov. William Denny, (under commission dated May 7th, 1756,) Aug. 20, 1756. See Colon. Rec. Vol. VII. p. 221.

Proprietor W^{m}. Penn, Esqre, of happy Memory, has a Pre-eminence, and if the Proprietor^{s} Governor and Country harmonize together, (which is our earnest wish) might become the Flower of America.

The English Nation, as it is in general of generous Principles, not forcing any one's Conscience or restraining his Liberty, but leaving the Hearts to God, has also been so favourable to our Brethren, as by an Act of Parliament to exempt such of them as conscientiously scruple the Taking of an Oath, and the Bearing of Arms. And to the Praise of this Govern^{t}, we must declare that they have hitherto dealt with us agreeable to the Same, having forced none of us either to take an Oath or go to the War.

Our principal Endeavour has been to delight the Heart of our dear Lord Jesus Christ, and to live to his Honour, whom we adore as our Creator, and who also was manifested in the Flesh, became a Sacrifice for us, and redeemed us from the Dominion of Sin and Satan by his own Blood. And we hope that our labour has not been in Vain, altho' we must confess that we are infinitely indebted to Him still.

Our next Concern has been to make the Offices of Govern^{t} (which are in themselves heavy enough) as easy and as light as possible to the Magistrates, and under them to lead a quiet and peaceable life in all Godliness and Honesty. And to order our Matters with such Decorum and Industry, that our Fellow Subjects instead of Complaint against us, might be rather induced to thank God for sending hither the Offspring of those Confessors, of whom many Hundreds boldly seal'd with their Blood that Truth which they knew to be the Word of God; with regard to this Point, all those who know us right, will, we hope, have a favourable opinion of us.

Thirdly, ever since we came into the Country, our hearty desire has been for the Furtherance of the Gospel among the poor Heathen, who are the most miserable Slaves of the Devil, and worship him still as their God. In order to bring them effectually acquainted with the Way of Life, which is Jesus Christ, that is, to believe on Him, to love Him, and to be obedient to Him. Our blessed Saviour has also given some success to this our undertaking by rendring thro' the Gospel many a Monster, (for such they are till they come to him) not only humanized, but also Lovers of their Creator. And a little Flock of such Indians there are living with us in Bethlehem, and ever since the commencement of the War, having from the Beginning desired and enjoy'd as Children the protection of this Government. We beg Leave herewith heartily to recommend them to Y^{r} Honour's Protection and Favour.

As to the Recompence we have had from the Savages for all the Faithfulness shewn to them for all our dangerous Journeys to them, and Perils among them, need not now be related, it being already notoriously known. Yet this shall not discourage us from proceeding to use our best Endeavours to bring those poor Creatures, possess'd by more than One demon, to Faith in Christ.

We conclude with recommending this and all other Our Congregations in this Province to Y^r Honour's kind Favour and Protection, at the same time sincerely beseeching God to give Y^r Honour Wisdom, Courage and Success in all your Undertakings, for the good of the Country during your Administration in Government.

We are with all Respect Y^r Honour's
most obedient and humble Serv^ts.

Bethlehem, Aug. 21, 1756.

Sign'd in Behalf of the above mentioned Members of the Unitas Fratrum and their United Brethren. Joseph, alias Augustus Gottlieb Spangenberg, Ordinarii Unitatis Fratrum Vicarius Generalis in America.

M. P. P.

Indorsed,

Address of the Unitas Fratrum, 24 Augt. 1756.

Ministers, &c. of Christ's Church to Gov. Denny, 1756.

To the Honourable William Denny, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania, and Counties of New Castle, Kent, & Sussex, on Delaware.

The Address of the Minister, Assistant, Church Wardens, and Vestry Men of Christ's Church, in Philadelphia.

May it please your Honour,

We, the Minister, Assistant Church Wardens and Vestry Men of Christ's Church, in Philadelphia, beg leave to congratulate you on your safe Arrival to your Government of Pennsylvania.

As Members of the Established Church of England, we have the greatest reason to hope your Honour's Protection and good Offices will on every Occasion be kindly extended to us.

And we sincerely pray that your Administration may be attended with Peace, Unity and Concord amongst our Selves, and a general Vigorous pursuit of the publick Good.

Philadelphia, Augt. 25, 1756.

Indorsed,

Copy, Address of Minister, Church Wardens & Vestry, 28 Augt. 1756. No signatures.

Address of the Regiment of County of Philadelphia to Gov. Denny, 1756.

To the Honourable William Denny, Esq., Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania, and Counties of New-Castle, Kent, and Sussex upon Delaware.

The humble Address of the Officers of the Regiment of the County of Philadelphia.

May it please your Honour,

We the Officers of the Regiment of the County of Philadelphia beg leave to congratulate you on your Appointment and safe arrival, to the Government of this Province.

The excellent Character we have had the Pleasure to receive of your Honour, with respect to your skill both in civil and military affairs, gives us the agreeable Hopes that your Administration will be attended with the most extraordinary advantages to this Province. And we trust, that among the many Objects to which your Honour's Care and Regard, will undoubtedly extend, you will favour this Regiment with your Countenance and Protection.

We beg leave to assure your Honour, that we shall always think ourselves in duty bound chearfully to obey your Commands as our Captain General, and afford you the best assistance in our Power in the Execution of any undertaking your Honour may think necessary, to repel the Invasions of our Savage and treacherous Enemies. And permit us to add, that nothing could give us greater Satisfaction than to see your Honour easy and happy in your Government, and all Ranks and Degrees of People rejoicing under the influence of your mild Administration.

Signed in Behalf of the Officers by
JACOB DUCHÉ, Lt. Col.

August 28th, 1756.

Indorsed.

Address of Officers of the Regiment of the County of Philadelphia, delivered 28th August, 1756, and answer to it.

Reply of Gov. Denny to Regiment of Philad'a, 1756.

Gentlemen,

Your kind address does me a great deal of honour, & I shall be glad of every opportunity of showing my regard for the Officers & Regiment of the County of Philadelphia.

I am very much obliged to you for your ready offers of entering

upon action, & the Loyalty you express for the service of your King & Country.

Sir Thos. Robinson to "Deputy Gov. of Penna."* 1756.

Whitehall, 28th August, 1756.

Sir,

The Lords Justices having thought it necessary to appoint without Loss of Time, a Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Forces in North America, in the room of the late Major General Braddock, who was killed in the unfortunate affair of the 9th of last month on the Monongbela; I am to acquaint you that Major General Shirley is ordered to take upon him, till His Majesty's farther Pleasure shall be signifyed, that Command, with like Powers, with which Major General Braddock held the same, and as Mr. Shirley is furnished with Copies of every order, Letter & Instruction that has been sent from hence, at any Time, to, or received from his Predecessor; you may correspond with him, and apply to him upon every occasion, and upon all points, in such manner as you was empowered to do, to Major General Braddock, & you will not only regularly observe such Directions as you shall receive from him thereupon, But will also transmit to Him forthwith Copies of your whole Correspondence with the late Major General Braddock since his first arrival in North America.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble servant,
T. ROBINSON.

P. S. I have received your Letter of the 1st. past.—T. R.

Deputy Govr of Pennsylvania.

Indorsed.

Duplicate, Sr. Tho. Robinson, 28 Augt. 1756.

Peter Bard to Gov. Morris, 1756.

Fort Augusta, Septemb^r ye 4th, 1756.

May it please your Honour,

This will be deliver'd your honour by Mr. Robert Erwen the Wagon Master who is going down in order to provide some more Teams. Capt. Lloyd arrived here the first instant, & with him sundry things which was much wanted, particularly flour, which came in very good season, as we had not more left than would last above three days, the whole brought up by horses, as the river con-

* Then Gov. Morris.

tinues yet so low that it is not navigable for the battoes, & a party goes down to morow with the horses to fetch up what may be left, what provisions we have now here will exclusive of the Cattle, last about three weeks, I was oblidg'd some time before this supply came to reduce the people's allowance of flour and give them part peas, otherwise it would have been gone many days before, I mentioned to the Commissioners that if they were to provide a quantaty of Callivance peas, which I believe might be bought cheap in the Country would be of great service in this regiment, & would help to spin out the other provisions. The fort is now almost finished, & a fine one it is, we want a good large flag to grace it. On the 23d past, one of the soldiers was coming here from Harrisse's Express, & fifteen miles from this fort was murder'd & scalp't, the party that went to escort Capt. Lloyd found and bury'd him, & last Sunday morning one of our people who attended the Cattle, went to the Spring about half a mile from the fort, & while he was drinking was shot, and afterwards scalp't and Tommahawk't, there was Immediately a party sent in quest of them but could not come up with them, Chegray says he is satisfy'd they were Dellawares; a few nights since a Dutch man came here, he made his Escape from the Indians at Alligany, he was one of the soldiers at fort Grandviel, & was taken when that fort was distroy'd, he can give very little account of the engagement or the number of the enemy, he says he was hurry'd away by a few Indians, & another party went with some more of the prisoners, so that they were divided, the Col^{l}. writes your Honour by this Opportunity, to whom I refer for farther particulars.

I am,

Your honour's
Most Oblidged
humble serv^{t},

PETER BARD.

On the other side Sr, is a List of what was in Store before Capt. Lloyd came, and what came with him.

Provisions in Store Septemb^{r} ye 1st.

46 bb^{s} beef & porke.	5 Do. of peas.
9 Do. of flour.	1 Bullock.

Brought up Septemb^{r} ye 1st.

3 Cent powder.	11 frying pans.
6 Do. of Lead.	1 Stock Lock.
92 Pair of Shoes.	a Lump of Chalk.
4 Lanthorns.	27 bags flour ab^{t} 5000 wt.
1301 grape shot.	4 Iron Squares.
46 hand granades.	12 Carpinters Compasses.
58 Canon ball.	1 ream writeing paper.
50 blankets.	4 quire Cateredge Do.
4 bras kettels.	some match rope very ordinary.
6 falling axes.	33 head of Cattle.

Direction.

(On his Majesties Service)—To The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris, Esq., Governour & Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania.

℘ Mr. Erwen.

Indorsed.

4th Septr., 1756, Peter Bard, Commissary.

Col. Clapham to Benj. Franklin, 1756.

Sir,

The Bearer, Michael McGuire, inlisted as a private Soldier for the Term of three months, in the Service of the Province, he has not only during that time behav'd himself soberly & well as a Soldier, but has also been particularly useful as an Overseer and Carpenter in the Building the Fort; the term of his Inlistment expir'd a month ago, and as he is Capable of earning more in the Practice of his Business than his Pay amounts to, he is now come to offer his further Services to the Gentlemen Commissioners on reasonable terms—if the Government designs to strengthen this Post by doubling the Fort wth another Case of Logs, and filling up the intermediate Space with Earth, in order to render it Cannon proof, which I think ought to be done, such a man will be particularly serviceable, at least I coul'd not refuse him this Certificate of his Merit—and am,

Sir,

Your most Obedient
humble Servant,
WILLM. CLAPHAM.

Fort Augusta, 7th Septr, 1756.

Directed.

To Benjamin Franklin, Esqr., Philadelphia.

Indorsed.

Col. Clapham, abt Michael McGuire, a Carpenter.
Septr 7, 1756.

Extract of a Letter from Colonel Clapham to B. Franklin, dated

Septr 8, 1756.

" This Post, which is in my Opinion of the utmost Consequence " to the Province, is already defensible against all the Power of " Musquetry, but as it is from the Nature of its Situation, expos'd " to a more formidable Descent from the West Branch, it ought, I " think, to be render'd Still Stronger, for which Purpose a greater

"Number of Horses and Teams are necessary. 'Tis likewise ex-
"pedient that this Garrison Should be Supply'd with at least Six
"Months Provisions, and Stores equivalent."

Indorsed.

Extract of Coll[l] Claphams Lre of 8 Sept[r], to B. F.

Col. John Armstrong's Account of Expedition against Kittanning, 1756.

Fort Littleton, Sept[r] 14th, 1756.

May it please your Hon[r]:

Agreeable to mine of the 29th ult[o]., We march'd from Fort Shirley the Day following, and on Wednesday, the Third Instant, join'd our advanced Party at the Beaver Dams, a few miles from Franks Town, on the North Branch of Juniata. We were there inform'd that some of our men having been out upon a Scout had discovered the Tracks of two Indians, about three miles on this Side of the Alleghenny Mountain, and but a few miles from the Camp. From the Freshness of the Tracks, their killing of a Cub Bear, and the marks of their Fires, it seem'd Evident they were not Twenty four Hours before us, which might be look'd upon as a particular Providence in our Favour, that we were not discover'd. Next morning we decamp'd, and in two Days came within Fifty miles of the Kittanning. It was then adjudged necessary to send some persons to reconnoitre the Town, and to get the best Intelligence they could concerning the Situation and Position of the Enemy; Whereupon an officer, with one of the Pilots and two Soldiers, were sent off for that Purpose. The Day following We met them on their Return, and they inform'd us that the Roads were entirely clear of the Enemy, and that they had the greatest Reason to believe they were not discover'd, but from the Rest of the Intelligence they gave it appear'd they had not been nigh enough the Town, either to perceive the true Situation of it, the Number of the Enemy, and what Way it might most advantageously be attack'd. We Continued our March, in order to get as near the Town as possible that Night, so as to be able to attack it next morning about Day Light, but to our great Dissatisfaction, about Nine or Ten o'Clock at Night, one of our Guides came and told Us that he perceiv'd a Fire by the Road Side, at which he saw two or three Indians a few Perches Distant from our Front; Whereupon, with all possible silence, I order'd the Rear to Retreat about one Hundred Perches in Order to make Way for the Front, that We might consult how we could best proceed without being discover'd by the Enemy. Soon after the Pilot return'd a Second Time, & assur'd us, from the best

Observations he cou'd make, there were not above three or Four Indians at the Fire, On which it was propos'd that we shou'd immediately surround and cut them off, but this was thought too hazardous, for if but one of the Enemy had escap'd, It wou'd have been the Means of discovering the whole Design; and the Light of the Moon on which depended our advantageously posting our men, and attacking the Town, wou'd not admit of our staying until the Indians fell asleep, On which it was agreed to leave Lieutenant Hogg with twelve Men, and the Person who first discover'd the Fire, with Orders to watch the Enemy, but not to attack them till Break of Day, and then, if possible, to cut them off. It was also agreed, (we believing our selves to be but about Six miles from the Town) to leave the Horses, many of them being tir'd, with what Blankets and other Baggage we then had, and to take a Circuit off the Road, which was very rough and incommodious on Account of the Stones and fallen Timber, in Order to prevent our being heard by the Enemy at the Fire Place. This Interruption much retarded our march, but a still greater loss arose from the Ignorance of our Pilot, who neither knew the true Situation of the Town nor the best Paths that lead thereto; By which means, after crossing a Number of Hills and Valleys our Front reach'd the River Ohio, about one hundred Perches below the main Body of the Town, a little before the Setting of the Moon, To which place, rather than by the Pilots, we we were guided by the beating of the Drum and the Whooping of the Warriors at their Dance. It then became us to make the best use of the remaining Moon Light, but ere we were aware an Indian whistled in a very singular manner about thirty Perches from our Front in the Foot of a Corn Field; Upon which we immediately sat down, and after passing Silence to the Rear I asked one Baker, a Soldier, who was our best assistant, whether that was not a Signal to the Warriors of our approach. He answered No, & said it was the Manner of a young Fellow's calling a Squa after he had done his Dance, who accordingly kindled a Fire, clean'd his Gun & shot it off before he went to Sleep. All this Time we were obliged to lay quiet and hush, till the Moon was fairly set; Immediately after a Number of Fires appeared in different places in the Corn Field, by which Baker said the Indians lay, the Night being Warm & that these Fires would immediately be out, as they were only designed to disperse the Gnats. By this Time it was Break of Day, and the Men, having marched Thirty Miles, were mostly asleep; the Time being long, the three Company's of the Rear were not yet brought over the last Precipice. For those some proper Hands were immediately dispatched, and the weary Soldiers being rouzed to their Feet, a proper Number under sundry officers were ordered to take the End of the Hill at which we then lay, and march along the Top of the s^d Hill at least one hundred perches and so much farther, it then being Day Light, as would carry them opposite the upper Part, or at least the Body of the Town, For the lower Part thereof and

the Corn Field, presuming the Warriors were there, I kept rather the larger Number of the Men promising to postpone the Attack in that Part for Eighteen or Twenty Minutes, untill the Detachment along the Hill should have Time to advance to the Place assigned them. In Doing of which they were a little unfortunate. The Time being elapsed, the Attack was begun in the Corn Field and the Men with all Expedition possible dispatched thro' the several Parts thereof, a Party being also dispatched to the Houses which were then discovered by the Light of the Day. Capt Jacob immediately then gave the War Whoop, and with Sundry other Indians, as the English Prisoners afterwards told, cried the White Men were at last come, they would then have Scalps enough, but at the Same Time ordered their Squa's and Children to flee to the Woods. Our Men with great Eagerness passed thro' and fired in the Corn Field, where they had several Returns from the Enemy, as they also had from the opposite Side of the River. Presently after a brisk Fire begun among the Houses, which from the House of Capt Jacob was returned with a great Deal of Resolution, to which place I immediately repaired, and found that from the Advantage of the House and Port Holes sundry of our People were wounded and some killed, and finding that returning the Fire upon the House was ineffectual, Ordered the contiguous Houses to be set on Fire which was performed by sundry of the Officers and Soldiers with a great Deal of Activity, the Indians always firing whenever an object presented itself, & seldom mist of wounding or killing some of our people. From which House, in moving about to give the necessary Orders & Directions I received a Wound with a large Musket Ball in the Shoulders. Sundry persons, during the Actions, were ordered to tell the Indians to Surrender themselves Prisoners, but one of the Indians in particular answered and said he was a Man and would not be a Prisoner; Upon which he was told in Indian he would be burnt. To this he answered he did not care, for he would kill four or five before he died, and had we not desisted from exposing ourselves they would have killed a great many more, they having a Number of loaded Guns by them. As the Fire began to approach & the Smoak grew thick one of the Indian Fellows to show his Manhood began to sing. A Squa in the same House & at the same Time was heard to cry & make a noise, but for so doing was severely rebuked by the Man, but by and by the Fire being too hot for them, two Indian Fellows and a Squa sprung out and made for the Corn Field, who were immediately shot down by our People, then surrounding the Houses it was thought Capt Jacob tumbled himself out at a Garret or Cock Loft Window, at which he was Shot; our Prisoners offering to be qualified to the Powder Horn and Pouch there taken off him, which they say he had lately got from a French Officer in Exchange for Lieut Armstrong's Boots, which he carried from Fort Granville where the Lieut. was killed. The same Prisoners say they are perfectly assured of his Scalp, as no other Indians there were

their Hair in the same manner. The also say they know his Squas' Scalp by a particular Bob, and also know the Scalp a Young Indian called the King's Son. Before this Time Capt Hugh Mercer, who early in the Action was wounded in the Arm, had been taken to the Top of a Hill above the Town, To whom a Number of the Men and some of the Officers were gathered, From whence they had discovered some Indians cross the River and take the Hill with an Intention, as they thought, to surround us and cut off our Retreat, from whom I had sundry pressing Messages to leave the Houses and retreat to the Hills or we should all be cut off, but to this cou'd by no means consent until all the Houses were set on Fire, tho' our spreading upon the Hills appeared very necessary, yet did it prevent our Researches of the Corn Field & River Side by which Means sundry Scalps were left behind and doubtless some Squas, children and English Prisoners that otherwise might have been got. During the burning of the houses, which were Near thirty in Number, we were agreeably entertained with a quick Succession of charged Guns gradually firing off as reached by the Fire, but much more so with the vast Explosion of sundry Bags and large Cags of Gunpowder, wherewith almost every House abounded, the prisoners afterwards informing that the Indians had frequently said they had a sufficient Stock of Ammunition for ten Years War with the English. With the Roof of Capt. Jacob's House, when the Powder blew up, was thrown the Leg & Thigh of an Indian, with a child of three or four years old, to such a height that they appeared as Nothing, & fell in the adjacent Corn Field. There was also a great Quantity of Goods burnt which the Indians had received in a present but ten days before from the French. By this time I had proceeded to the Hill to have my Wound tied up and the Blood stopped, where the Prisoners which in the Morning had come to our People informed me that that very Day two Battoes of French Men, with a large Party of Delaware and French Indians were to join Capt Jacob at the Kittanning and to set out early the next morning to take Fort Shirley, or as they called it, George Croghan's Fort, and that twenty four Warriors, who had lately come to the Town, were set out before them the Evening before, for what purpose they did not know, whether to prepare Meat, to spy the Fort or to make an Attack on some of our back Inhabitants. Soon after, upon a little reflection, we were convinc'd these Warriors were all at the fire we had discover'd but the Night before, and began to doubt the Fate of Lieut Hogg & his Party. From this Intelligence of the Prisoners, our Provisions being scaffolded some thirty miles back, except what were in the men's Haver Sacks, which were left with the horses and blankets, with Lieut Hogg and his party, and a Number of wounded people then on hand, by the advice of the officers it was thought imprudent then to wait for the cutting down the Corn Field (which was before design'd) but immediately to collect our wounded and force our march back in the best manner we cou'd,

which we did by collecting a few Indian Horses to carry of our wounded. From the apprehensions of being waylaid and surrounded, (especially by some of the Woodsmen,) it was difficult to keep the men together, our march for sundry miles not exceeding two miles an hour, which apprehensions were heightned by the attempts of a few Indians, who for some time after the march fir'd upon each wing and immediately ran off, from whom we receiv'd no other damage but one of our mens being wounded thro' both legs. Capt Mercer being wounded was induc'd, as we have reason to believe, by some of his men to leave the main body with his ensign, John Scott and ten or twelve men, they being heard tell him that we were in great danger, and that they cou'd take him into the road a nigh way, is probably lost there being yet no acct of him, & the most of the men come in. A Detachment was sent back to bring him in but cou'd not find him, and upon the return of the Detachment, it was generally reported he was seen with the above Number of men take a different road. Upon our return to the place where the Indian Fire had been discover'd the night before, We met with a Serjt of Capt. Mercers Company, and two or three other of his men who had deserted us that morning immediately after the action at the Kittanning; These men on running away had met with Lieut Hogg who lay wounded in two different Parts of his Body by the road side; He there told them of the Fatal Mistake of the Pilot who had assur'd us there were but three Indians at the most at the Fire place, but when he came to attack them that morning according to orders he found a Number considerably Superior to his and believes they killed or mortally wounded three of them the first Fire. After which a Warm Engagement began and continued for above an hour when three of his best men were kill'd and himself twice wounded, the Residue fleeing off he was oblig'd to squat in a thicket where he might have laid securely untill the main Body had come up, if this cowardly Serjt and others that fled with him had not taken him away. They had march'd but a short space when four Indians appear'd, on which these Deserters began to flee; The Lieut then notwithstanding his wounds as a brave Soldier urging & commanding them to stand and fight which they all refus'd: The Indians pursu'd killing one man & wounding the Lieutenant a third time thro' the Belly of which he died in a few hours, but he having sometime before been put on horseback, rode some miles from the place of action but this last attack of the Indians upon Lieut Hogg and the Deserters was by the before mentioned Serjeant represented to us quite in a different light, he telling us that there were a far larger Number of the Indians there than appear'd to them, and that he and the men with him had fought five rounds. That he had there seen the Lieut. & sundry others kill'd and scalp'd, and had also discover'd a Number of Indians throwing themselves before us, and insinuated a great deal of such Stuff as threw us into much confusion, so that the officers had a great deal to do to keep the men

together, but cou'd not prevail with them to collect what horses and other baggage the Indians had left after their Conquest of Lieut Hogg and the Party under his Command in the morning, except a few of the horses which some of the bravest of the men were prevailed on to collect; So that from the mistake of the Pilot who spied the Indians at the Fire, and the cowardice of the said Serjeant and other Deserters, we here sustained a considerable loss of our horses and baggage. It is impossible to ascertain the exact Number of the Enemy kill'd in the action, as some were destroyed by fire, and others in different parts of the corn field, but upon a moderate computation its generally believed there cannot be less than thirty or forty killed & mortally wounded, as much Blood was found in sundry Parts of the corn field, and Indians seen in several places crawl into the woods on hands and feet, whom the Soldiers in pursuit of others then overlooked expecting to find & scalp them afterward, and also several kill'd and wounded in crossing the River. On beginning our march back we had about a Dozen of Scalps and eleven English Prisoners, but now find that four or five of the Scalps are missing. Part of which were lost on the Road, and part in possession of these men who, with Capt Mercer seperated from the main body, with whom also went four of the Prisoners, the other Seven being now at this place where we arrived on Sunday Night, not being soon separated attack'd thro' our whole march by the Enemy tho' we expected it every day. Upon the whole, had our pilots understood the true Situation of the Town and the Paths leading to it so as to have posted us at a convenient place where the Disposition of the men and the duty assigned to them could have been performed with greater advantage, we had, by Divine Assistance, destroyed a much greater Number of the Enemy, recovered more Prisoners, and sustained less damage than what we at present have, But tho' the advantage gained over these our Common Enemies is far from being Satisfactory to us, yet must we not despise the smallest. Degrees of Success that God is pleased to give especially at a Time of such general calamity when the attempts of our Enemies have been so prevalent and successful. I am sure there was the greatest Inclination to do more, had it been in our Power, as the officers and most of the Soldiers, throughout the whole action, exerted themselves with as much activity and resolution as could possibly be expected. Our Prisoners inform us the Indians have for some Time past talked of fortifying at the Kittanning and other Towns. That the Number of French at Fort du Quesne is about four hundred. That the principal part of their Provisions came up the River from the Mississippi. And that in the three other Forts which the French have on the Ohio, there are not more men taken together than what there are at Fort du Quesne. I hope as soon as possible to receive your Honrs Instructions with Regard to the Distribution or Stationing of the sundry Company's in this Battalion, and as a Number of men are now wanting in each of the Companies

whether or no they shall be immediately recruited, and if the sundry officers are to recruit, that money be speedily sent for that purpose. I beg the Favour of your hon^r as soon as possible to furnish Governor Morris with a copy of this letter, and the gentlemen commissioners for the Province with another as my present Indisposition neither admits me to write or dictate any more at this time. In case a quantity of ammunition is not already sent to Carlisle, it should be sent as soon as possible, and also if the Companies are to be recruited and compleated there, must be an immediate supply of about three hundred blankets, as there has been a great many lost in the present Expedition.

Enclosed is a list of the killed and wounded & missing of the several Company's. I expect to go to Carlisle in about four days.

I am,

Your Hon^rs

Most obed^t, &

most h'ble Servt.,

JOHN ARMSTRONG.

To the Hon'ble Governor, William Denny.

P. S. Your hon^rs instructions with regard to our prisoners recovered from the Indians is necessary, that I may know whether to send them to Philad'a, or deliver them to their relations as your hon^r shall think fit.*

Indorsed.

Fort Littleton, Sept. 14, 1756, Colonel Armstrong givin an account of his expedition to Kittannin.

A List of the Names of the Persons kill'd, wounded and missing, out of the several Companys employ'd in the late Expedition against the Kittanning:

LIEUTENANT COLL. JNO. ARMSTRONG'S COMPY.

No. 1. Thomas Power, } Kill'd.
2. John McCormick. }
3. Lieu^t. Col^l Armstrong, }
4. James Carruthers, } Wounded.
5. James Strickland, }
6. Thos. Foster, }

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. VII., p. 242 & 257, where this is printed but not the following list of killed and wounded.

CAPT. HAMILTONS COMPY.

7. John Kelly, Kill'd.

CAPT. MERCERS COMPY.

8. John Baker,
9. John McCartney,
10. Patrick Mullen,
11. Cornelius McGinnis,
12. Theophilus Thompson,
13. Dennis Kilpatrick,
14. Bryan Carrigan, } Kill'd.

15. Richard Fizgibbins, Wounded.

16. Capt. Hugh Mercer,
17. Ensign John Scott,
18. Emanuel Minskey,
19. John Taylor,
20. John
21. Francis Phillips,
22. Robert Morrow,
23. Thomas Burk,
24. Philip Pendergrass. } Missing.

CAPT. ARMSTRONGS COMPY.

25. Lieut. James Hogg,
26. James Anderson,
27. Holdcraft Stringer,
28. Edwd Obrians,
29. James Higgins,
30. John Lasson, } Kill'd.

31. William Findley,
32. Robert Robinson,
33. John Ferrol,
34. Thos. Camplin,
35. Charles O'Neal, } Wounded.

36. John Lewis,
37. Wm. Hunter,
38. Wm. Baker,
39. George Appleby,
40. Anthony Grissy,
41. Thos. Swan. } Missing.

CAPT. WARDS COMPY.

42. Wm. Welch, Kill'd.
43. Ephraim Bratten, Wounded.

44. Patrick Myers,
45. Lawrence Donnahow,
46. Samuel Chambers, } Missing.

CAPT. POTTERS COMPY.

47. Ensign James Potter, } Wounded.
48. Andrew Douglass, }

CAPT. STEELS COMPY.

49. Terence Cannaberry, Missing.

Total kill'd,	17
Wounded,	13
Missing,	19
	49

A List of English Prisoners retaken from the Indians at the Kittanning:

1. Ann McCord, Wife of Jn°. McCord, taken at McCords Fort, in Connegochieg.

2. Martha Thorn, about Seven Years old, taken at the same place.

3. Barbara Hicks, taken at the Conolloways.

4. Catherine Smith, a German Child, taken near Shamokin.

5. Margt Hood, taken near the mouth of Connegochieg, in Maryland.

6. Thos. Girty, taken at Fort Granville.

7. Sarah Kelly, taken near Winchester, in Virginia.

Besides one Woman, a Boy and two little Girls, who, with Capt. Mercer and Ensign Scott, seperated from the Main Body, as we began our March from Kittanning, who are not yet come in.

Indorsed.

Letter from Col. Armstrong, Septr 14, 1756, giving an Account of his Expedition to Kittanning, and desiring Sundries.

EXTRACTS FROM GEORGE STEVENSON TO —— ——, 1756.

Dr Sr:

By the Letter from Coll°. Armstrong to the Governor, you will have the Acct of the Success of our Expedition agt the Kattannan. Such are our Accts of it that we are rejoyced, I hope Care will be taken to pay off these valliant men with Honour, which will be a great Means of encourageing others.

What shall we do? no Money Bill, no Militia Law.

Bad News from Minorca. Bad News of Oswego. Must We in very Deed become a Province of France? if so, farewel Property, farewel Liberty, sweet Liberty; farewel Religion, instead of the free, Exercise of our Holy Religion, must we have Persecution? Images, Crucifixes, &c^a., &c^a. Alas! Alas!

Forgive me, D^r S^r, I am uneasy Day & Night, & I can't refrain opening a little to you.

I am, D^r S^r,
y^r most Ob^t Servt.
GEO. STEVENSON.

Lanc^r, 17th Sep^r, 1756.

Indorsed.

Letter George Stevenson, 17 Septem, 1756.

Conversation between C. Weiser & Shekellamy, 1756.

Memorandums taken *Septr the

Tachneghdoruss (alias John Shikilimy) made answer to the Message I sent to him by Ogughrudaryhon, to wit:

Oncle here I show you the Belt of Wampum you Send to me and my Brethren, and our whole family, together with the Streng, and a nother Streng sent to me by Yokarontie, (Coll. Clapum); by this Belt you reprimanded meself & my family for runing away from Shamockin last fall into a Wildnessness, where we must Certainly perish for want of the necessarys of life, and you told us that it was a very wrong Step to run away from our friends, and you Charged us, your Cousins, to Come back either to Shomockin or your own house at Tulpehockin, or else where in your neighbourhood, So that you Could have an opportunity to help us with some provisions, and have an open Eie over us, who were like little Children and knew not their own best. Oncle, I assure you that I and my Brethren have often repent^d that we came away from Shamockin and fleed up the river, when we were assure of your friendship, and Should have fleed to your house. It is true what you said we have lost ourselves, but we have ben deceived by our near neighbours the Delawares, and my brother, Sayughtowa, suffered himself to be laid a stray; he repents now and Sees his error, and we all have agreed to Come down either to Shamockin, our old place, If we can be protected there, or to your house as soon as we Can with Safety, and that some other friendly Indians will join us, which have allready promised us to Come down with us, Especially Oguchradaryhon and his family.

By your Streng, which was Secconded by Coll. Clapums, you desired me in particular, that if I, with my family, Could not Come away Imediately, that I must Come because you want to Convers

* Indorsed 18th September.

with me about matters of moment. I am Come according to your invidation, and I promise you that I shall be open & free with you about every thing, and I hope you will be the same, Considering the long friendship subsisting between my family and yours; my deceased father has Charged us to be allways advised by you, and to keep allways a good Correspondence with you, as to the treaty latly held at Onontago, by Warughyackon, with the Six united nations; you will no doubt have heard from that Gentleman, that the united nations have Come into his measures, that is to say, the Mohocks, Oneidos & Onantagers, with the Tascarroros, those having all received the King of Great Brittains Hatchet and danced the Warr dance, and will Certainly fight the French. The Cayhukers, have refused to accept of it, saying that by public treatics we were obliged to stand neuter; the Sinickers had sent no deputies, but the old Belt, he that Came from Pensilvania, took up the Hatchet in behalf of his nation, (he being a Sinicker) and danced the Warr dance, but whether or no It will have any Effect upon the Sinickers is not known as yet; that Mr. Johnson had but it very Close to the deputies of the Delawares & Shawanos about their Murdering the people of Pensilvania, and insisted upon to know the reason; they, the said Indians, Employed Scarniady to give their answer in open Council, at Onontago, which accordingly he did, to the following purport. Brother Warughyakon, you press upon us to give you the reason why we Struck our Brethren, the people of Pensilvania, you know the first beginning of it better than we do. You and the French quarreld for the lands on Ohio, and the French Came there with a large Body of men and beat yours off, and so the Indians on Ohio were in a manner obliged to come into their measures, they were persuaded to take up the Hatchet agt the English, and as they Came in smal parties to Susquehana river, the prevaild on Susquehana Indians to go with them, the being related to one another. Many had their fathers, mothers, sons & daughters on Ohio, and Could not withstand their request, being one people they could not resist; that they now saw their error, and would be directed by their uncles the Six Nations, but that they Could not help of finding a lite fault with their uncles, who suffered the French to pass thro their Country without molestation, which afterwards the Indians on Ohio pleaded to the Susquehana Indians, and added that the Six Nation were on the side of French; that they, the Susquehana Indian, were glad to find the Contrary, and that they now awaked as out of a deep sleep, and would trie all means to make up the Break with the people of Pensilvania.

John, by way of Complaint, desired me to acquaint the Governor of the hardships he had suffered, being in a manner taken away prisoner from Shamokin, by the Delawares, and obliged to go up the the river Susquehana, and when by their leave in a manner he was suffered to Come down to Philadelphia, he was cursed by some of the people of Pensilvania to his face and threaned to be killed, and

that in order to save his life he was obliged to make his Escap, and allmost perished in the woods for want of food, haveing above 200 miles to travel before he Could reach the Indian town, and had nothing to Eat but what he could pick up in the woods, haveing no gun with him; that he thought it very hard that there was no Body that spoke in his favour among them people on Susquehana, tho they all knew that he was a Constant friend to the people of Pensilvania; that he desired them to give him a safe gard to Convey him to his uncle, C. Weiser, but they would not do it, and said that C. W. was as great a Rogue as himself.

John inquires what was become of Paxonosys Message he sent down in answer to the Governor, by Sheekelimy; he says that Message was sent by the way of Lancaster, and Edward Shippen, Esqr. had received it.

Indorsed,

Conversation with Sheekcalamy, delivered 18 Sept^r, 1755.

John Pownall, Secry., to late Gov. Morris 1756.

Whitehall, Sept., 10th, 1756.

Sir:

It being of the greatest Importance that His Majesty should, in the present situation of affairs, be truly and exactly informed of the real state of Defence of all his Colonies in America, as well in relation to the Ordnance and Stores of War which are in each Colony, respectively; as to the Forts and Fortifications, & the number of their Inhabitants; I am directed by the Lords Commiss^rs. for Trade & Plantations, to desire you will, with all possible Dispatch, prepare and transmit to their Lordships, to be laid before His Majesty, an exact particular Account thereof, with respect to the Colony under your Government, in which you are to express the present actual State & Quantity of the Cannon, Small Arms, Ammunition, & other Ordnance and Military Stores belonging to the said Colony, either in the Publick Magazines, or in the possession of the Militia or other private Persons, together with the true State of all Places either already fortified, or which you judge further necessary to be fortified, with your opinion at large in what manner His Majesty may further contribute to the Security and Defence of the said Colony, and also as exact an Account as you can obtain of the real Number of Inhabitants, Whites & Blacks, How many of the former are able to bear

Arms, of what Number the Militia is composed, and how armed, muster'd, and train'd. I am,

Sir,

Your most Obedient,

humble Servant,

JOHN POWNALL, Secry.

Honble. Robert Hunter Morris, Esqr., Lieu^t^. Gov. of Pennsylvania.

Indorsed.

Jno. Pownall, Secry. of the Board of Trade, 19 Sept. 1755.

Col. Clapham to Gov. Denny, 1756.

Fort Augusta, Septemb^r^. 23, 1756.

Sir,

I do myself the Honor to congratulate you on your safe Arrival & Accession to the Government of Pennsylvania, where I sincerely wish your Honor all the Success & Happiness that can possibly flow from the wisest Councills or the most consummate merit: it is with inexpressible Pleasure I observe that his Majesty has been graciously pleas'd to confer the Command of this Province on a Gentleman of Experience in Military affairs, at a Time when the most Vigorous Measures are necessary for its Protection from immediate Ruin, and flatter myself, that both the Preservation and the Happiness of the People, will prove at once the Reward of your Cares & the Glory of your Administration.

Permit me, Sir, to inform you, that I received from your Honorable Predecessor, Mr. Morris, the Command of a Regiment of Foot, consisting of four hundred Men, raised in the Pay of the Province of Pennsylvania, & now doing duty at Fort Halifax, which is garrison'd by a Company of fifty men, Detatch'd from this Regiment, and the Rest of the Corps station'd at Fort Augusta at Shamokin, where I am in Justice bound to Acknowledge that they have shewn a commendable Disposition to serve their Country, & suffer'd excessive Fatigue in building a Fort, agreeable to the Plan herewith transmitted to your Honor, in little better than the space of six Weeks, and in Escorting Provisions for the use of the Regiment at the same time.

There are now four Months Pay due to this Regiment, and as many of the Soldiers have left Familys at Home dependant on their Pay, & reduc'd to the utmost Misery for Want of it, I find no small Difficulties in detaining them for the present, in so discouraging a Service, and am apprehensive I shall not (unless better supported by

the Government) be able to do it much longer. I have, in order to relieve their real necessitys, lent amongst them great Part of my own Pay, besides borrowing from others for that Purpose, and 'tho considerably in advance for the Province, have not one single Farthing in my Hand for any Incidental Charges. My Duty to the Service calls upon me to inform your Honor, that no Person being regularly appointed to supply this Garrison with Flour, we have been twice reduc'd to the Quantity of two Barrels, and the Commanding Officer of the Escorting Party sent down to Hunters Fort for Flour, as often oblig'd to purchase it from different Parts of the Country, the Party being detain'd in the Mean Time, & deserting daily to the great prejudice of the Service. I beg Leave to represent to your Honor, that this Garrison consisting of three hundred & twenty Men can never Answer the Purpose expected of protecting the Frontier around it, & carry on the Works at the same Time, while one hundred Men are constantly employ'd in escorting Provisions for the rest, and frequently oblig'd to wait a considerable Time among the Inhabitants, till Provisions can be purchas'd, and that a Quantity sufficient to serve the Garrison at least six Months, ought always to be in Store to prevent so Advanc'd a Post as this is, from falling into the Hands of the Enemy, in Case of a Seige or the Communication being by any other means cutt off; I hope that this Regiment will be happy in your Honors Favour & Protection, & am, Sir, with all possible Respect,

Your Honors,

most Obedient, humble Servant,

WILLM. CLAPHAM.

Indorsed.

23 Sept., 1756. Coll. Clapham.

END OF VOL. II.

INDEX.

A.

B.

C.

D.

E.

F.

G.

* These are mere references to the pages where the Forts are spoken of, sometimes by the name of the fort or place, or of the Commander.

J.

K.

L.

M.

N.

O.

various Moneys to Earl of Halifax on 529. Colonel Washington desires an, 521.
Usage, Scaroudy, address of, to Governor Denny, 190.

V.

Van Etten, instructions to, 545. Letter, 737.
Virginia, letters of Governor Gooch, 18. President Lee's, 38. Gov. Dinwiddie's speech on proroguing assembly, 163. Correspondence with governor of Pennsylvania, 18, 58, 157, 236, 268. Provisions for, 268, 449. Forts in, 581. French incursions in, 581. Rate of rum and currency, 632.

W.

Wampum, quantity of, left with Secretary, by Conrad Weiser, 17.
War declared between Eng. & France, 128.
Warwick, English man-of-war taken by the French, 629.
Washington, Col. Geo., charged by D. Stem, with improprieties, 630. Resolve union of Colonies, 541. Declined correspondence, 626. Letters, 541, 503, 620.
Wayne, Captain Isaac, orders to, 542.
Wetterhold, Captain, 613, 741, 758.
Weiser, Conrad, letters from, 3, 9, 10, 11, 15, 23, 44, 259, 319, 458, 481, 503, 504, 511, 547, 560, 562, 568, 626, 696, 778. Purchases land, 10. Journal of distances to Ohio, 12. Quantity of Wampum left with Secretary, 17.
Wentworth, Governor, of New Hampshire, letters to and from, 136, 198, 200.
Wilmington (Del.) Fort and Battery erected by D. Bush, &c., 6. Letter from Burgesses of, alarm at, 136.
Wolcott, Roger, Governor Connecticut, letters to and from, 120, 122.
Writing master, an extraordinary, arrives at Philadelphia, 170.
Wyoming, examination respecting, 581, 582.

Y.

York county, riot at election in, 51. Petition of attorney general of Maryland to Judges of, respecting Digges, 76. Losses from enemies at, and great alarm at, 448, 614.
Young, Commissary James, 702. Captains of Pinglaw's regiment complain, 725. His letter to Governor Morris respecting pay of soldiers, 704, 718. Commissary of musters, Journal to different forts, 731,

Z.

Zeisberger, David, examination of, 129.

528. Minutes of B. L. to Amb. 445, 462. Letters to and from, 475, 492, 531, 532, 536, 576, 577, 578, 579, 582, 587, 588, 612. Sends Journals, 562. Death of his Son, 634. Plan of operations, 524. Ordered to England, 595. Exit and Forts.
Shirley, Wm., letters to and from, 273, 282, 307, 310, 317, 330, 334, 336, 337. Secretary to Braddock, 397.
Shirley, John, letters to and from, 198, 333, 377, 387, 482. Death of, 473, 481.
Shuick, John, examination respecting Wyomink, 401.
Simple, Wyoman's case, 353.
Smith, Capt. Fred. orders to, 544.
Smith, Rev'd Mr. (Wm.) 405.
Soldiers, articles of agreement with officers, 541, 547.
Spangenberg, Rev'd Mr. letters, 585, 715.
Spearing, Lieut. letters, 568, 582.
Speech of Gov'r Morris at Aughwick, 185.
Spry, Commodore, 568.
Stedman, Alex. appointed Commissioner to settle accounts for wagons furnished General Braddock, 508.
Steel, Rev'd Capt. John, letters, 645.
Stevenson, Geo., letters to and from, 30, 428.
Strettell, Robert, letters to and from, 548.
Style, act for changing old to new, 1752, 56.
Sugar Cabins, minutes of a meeting at the, 320.
Susquehanna Company, deed for lands from Indians, (supposed fraudulent), 147, 175. Grant of land to, by Connecticut, 302.
Susquehanna River, deed for lands between, and Delaware, 73, 86. List of inhabitants west of, in 1750, 88, lands granted by Connecticut, 303.
Sweling, Charles, 301.

T.

Tachnechdorus, Shickalamy's son, succeeds his father, 32.
Teedyuscung, 770. Reply to Morris, 771, 772. Always drunk, 738.
Thomas, Gov. George, additional instructions on bills of credit, 144. Letter to Gov. Morris, 129.
Treaty with Indians, 536.
Trent, William, account of a murder by Indians, 10, 98, 576.
Tulpehocken, murders at, 502, 508, 605, 592.

U.

Union of the Colonies, draft of a plan of, 136. At Albany, 160. Plan of, 194. Hampshire views of, 432. Meeting appointed at New York, 450, 795.